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HAMILTON COLLEGE

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The Spectator

"Older than the New York Times"

PHOTO BY MELISSA BALDING '09

Hamilton College President Joan Hinde Stewart addresses students and faculty at the Convocation ceremony on August 27.

Convocation opens 195th year

by Eric Kuhn '09
Insights & Ideas Editor

Bang. Bang. Bang.

With College Marshal John H. O'Neill's long stick hitting the ground three times, Hamilton College began its 195th year with the entire freshman class, faculty, and scholarship and award winners in Wellin Hall on Saturday.

After O'Neill, College Chaplain Jeff McArn led the auditorium in an invocation followed by everyone singing "America the Beautiful." Dean of Students Nancy Thompson began the welcoming remarks to the incoming freshmen: "Congratulations on surviving orientation!" Continuing, she said that this would be the last time the freshmen class would all be together until graduation, unless of course they wanted to "resurrect the class singing competition."

On a more serious note, Dean Thompson took a jab at "Helicopter parents" who "hover over students ready to swoop in." Trying to swat them away she told the students, "we want you to know that you are a competent adult" and do not need the parents for everything. "Share your experiences with people you love, but do it yourself," she elaborated. "Always know you are at Hamilton because we have faith in you. You can do this!"

With that, she handed the speaking baton over to the new

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Students return to campus under construction

Flashing crosswalk welcomes us back to the Hill

by Emily Poe '10
News Writer

Whether you've seen it, heard it, or merely heard about it, it's no doubt that you've been affected by the recent construction going on around the Hill. Although much of this major renovation and building has been completed in recent weeks, some of it still has a ways to go.

Projects such as the restoration of Kirkland and updates of various other residence halls have recently been completed. On the dark side, Babbitt is now fixed with a new fire alarm system, upgraded lighting, and new flooring. Bundy has new carpets and freshly painted corridors. On the light side, Carnegie was furnished with a completely new stone entrance, Dunham received an insulated attic, and of course, Kirkland underwent a complete renovation.

Though Kirkland was just one of many residence halls which was updated, its large-scale overhaul "took one of the biggest efforts due to unforeseen problems with the original steel design of the building," says Steve Bellona, vice president for facilities and planning at Hamilton. Kirkland was to be ready for students when they arrived on campus on August 26th, but due to the initial problems with the steel design it was not completed until the 29th. With regards to the late opening of Kirkland, Bellona says, "The important thing is that the students were able to move into Kirkland after only a few days of off-campus living, which is a direct result of the extremely hard work and dedication which the Physical Plant and construction staff (from such corporations as Bette and Cring Construction Group and March Associates), put into completing the building."

Along with residence hall updates, much of the recent construction has been focused around the athletic facilities. The new

see *Construction*, page 3

PHOTO COURTESY OF GRANT ZUBRITSKY '07 AND BRITT FREITAG '08

Students on the High Peaks Adirondack Adventure trip enjoy the view. Before starting classes, members of the Class of 2010 particpipated in Adirondack Adventure, the Urban Service Experience and orientation activites. For full stories, see page 2.

New Kirkland: Well worth the wait?

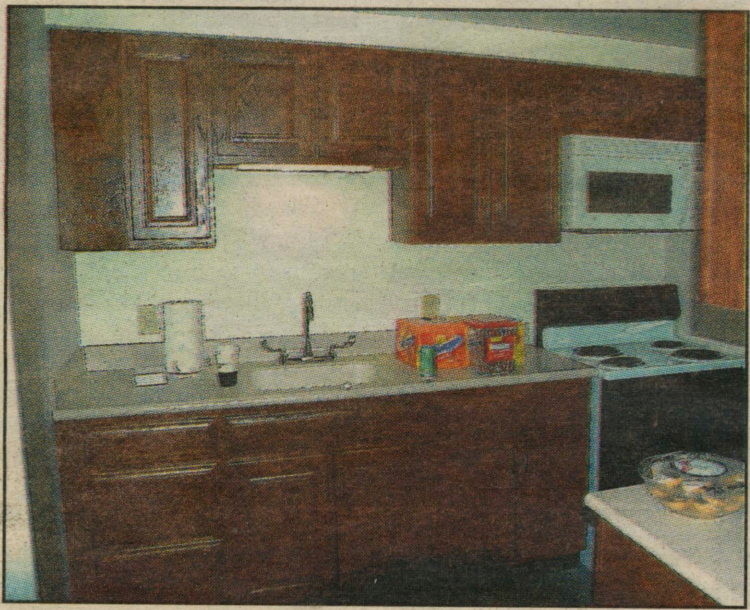

PHOTO BY DAN WITTENBERG '07

Kirkland residents were finally able to move into their rooms, including this spacious loft, on Tuesday.

by Emma Furman '07
Editor-in-Chief

While most of us returned to dorm rooms in need of decorating this past weekend and some arrived at Hamilton for the first time during Orientation to barren rooms and new faces, the 66 occupants of Kirkland Residence Hall returned to find their new home still under construction.

Kirkland residence hall, which saw its last renovation 43 years ago, underwent a complete regutting and renovation during a 15 week period over the summer, described by Director of Residential Life Jeff Landry as the "biggest and most aggressive project that Hamilton has ever done." He felt that the project was even more ambitious than the construction of the new Science Center because of the limited availability of time for renovations; the College only had the summer months available to complete construction because the dormitory was needed to house returning students this semester. Kirkland was scheduled for completion on Friday, August 25, the day before upper classmen returned to campus, and the construction efforts had been extremely rigorous all summer. However, by mid-June the contractor, Bette and Cring, estimated that construction was as much as a month behind schedule, according to Associate Vice President for Facilities & Planning Steve Bellona. Serious problems arose when construction workers opened up the walls of the building, dating to 1873, to find that the steel rafters inside were of a different size than what had been depicted in the drawings from the last renovation, done in 1963.

Bellona remarked how impressively Bette and Cring; March Associates, the artchitect of the three million dollar project; and the director of the construction at Hamilton, Associate Director of Physical Plant Bill Huggins, pulled together to "come up with solutions to really keep the schedule moving forward."

According to first floor Kirkland RA Niels Lesniewski '07, the dorm's residents were kept up to date on the construction's progress throughout the summer

see *Kirkland*, page 4

Welcome Hamilton Class of 2010!

First-year students enjoy week of orientation events

by Pat Hodgens '09
News Writer

Before most returning students arrived in the past week, Hamilton welcomed the Class of 2010 to campus during New Student Orientation. Starting August 22, Orientation staff welcomed and moved in this year's crop of first-years and transfers, beginning a tightly scheduled five days.

"The goal is to first provide the first-years with ample resources to prepare them for their time at Hamilton and second, to bring them together," said Miranda Raimondi '08. She, along with Greg Esser '07 and Dave Sherman '07, were the Orientation Coordinators.

Paul Ryan '02, assistant director of student activities, agreed: "The goal is to help ease the transition from high school to college."

Highlights of the week included Big Prize Bingo, a mentalist and at least two streaks by upperclassmen.

"It was a huge success. If everyone gets here, gets moved in, gets registered and has fun along the way we consider it a huge success," said Lisa Magnarelli '96, director of student activities and coordinator of the Orientation program. "I was really pleased with the first years' involvement and hope it continues throughout the year."

In addition to fun and nudity, the week included mandatory events to get the new students prepared for the time at Hamilton. Dean of Students for Academics Phil Klinker taught students about academic life in preparation for their individual meetings with advisors. Faculty and staff also offered sessions on Pre-Health Professions, Pre-Law, Off Campus study and engineering. Outside speakers also educated students about alcohol and diversity in the college setting.

"I liked Orientation," said participant Alyssa Kanagaki '10. "[The Orientation groups] were a good environment to ask questions in."

Kanagaki offered one criticism that orientation organizers admitted was a tricky issue: "If I could change one thing it would be the busy schedule."

Ryan agreed that it was always a problem to find a good balance between mandatory programming and free time. "We don't want to fill up their whole week,"he said, but asserted there are a lot of vital things to squeeze into a short time.

This year was similar to previous Orientations. "Every year we build on what was given to us," said Raimondi, but it also included a few changes. Open Mic Night was axed from the schedule due to time constraints. Magnarelli said it will occur this weekend and it will be brought back for next year's orientation.

Open Mic Night was replaced by an outdoor showing of "The Incredibles" in Clinton. "We're trying to get freshmen out of the Hamilton bubble," explained Raimondi. The program tried to orient the students to the surrounding areas as well, offering Jitney service to the

*see **Orientation**, page 8*

Students start Hamilton career with service trip

by Alicia Wright '10
News Writer

Coming home after a long day working outside, only to lie down on a hard floor—at first read one would assume this to be an excerpt from an Adirondack Adventurer's diary. However, this was actually a rough look at a day for the participants in a joint trip, the Urban Service Experience (USE). Eleven incoming students, a majority of first years, led by directors Jeff McArn Jeannine Murtaugh, and several upperclassmen leaders, volunteered throughout the adjacent city of Utica, only a 15 minute drive from campus. Housed in a downtown Utica church, these students helped build homes for Habitat for Humanity and aided in activities for other programs including J.C.T.O.D., the Compassion Coalition, the Refugee Center and AIDS Community Resources.

As Director Jeff McArn explained, the Urban Service Experience, created by the former Kirkland Project, is divided into three possible service options. For seven years, a January USE has been conducted prior to spring semester. The pre-orientation USE, held a week before all new students arrive on campus in late summer, has been in operation for five years, and most recently, in the past two years, a March break USE, organized by the Levitt Center and VISTA, has been formed for students to participate during spring break.

The goals of the Urban Service Experience are to not only assist in a smooth transition to

*see **USE**, page 8*

PHOTO COURTESY OF JEFF MCARN

The Urban Service Experience week-long volunteer trip is a time to connect with fellow students and faculty as together they reach out beyond the Hamilton campus to influence the larger urban Utica.

219 Freshmen participate in AA

PHOTO COURTESY OF GRANT ZUBITSKY '07 AND BRITT FREITAG '08

by Brittany Albert '10
News Writer

On the freshly painted shelves of the new Glen House sit rows of black and white composition notebooks. These notebooks, journals from every Adirondack Adventure trip (AA), contain dirt-stained pages of stories, reflections, jokes and memories from a cherished Hamilton pre-orientation tradition.

This year 219 freshmen and 55 trip leaders headed into the Adirondack wilderness to backpack, canoe, kayak, rock climb, bond with future classmates, and add one more year of notebooks to the Glen House's collection. Two new trips joined the program this year, Ausable Hiking (a backpacking trip) and Basecamp Adventure for participants who "didn't want to poop in the woods,"said Andrew Jillings, director of Hamilton's adventure programs.

In the beginning of the program, Jillings encouraged participants to ask their leaders questions and get ready for college. He advised students that when they returned from their trips, they would "know they've got friends and know everything is going to be ok."

After a week in the woods, many AA participants found that Jillings' advice was right. Tight-knit friendships formed quickly through activities like sleeping under the stars on a clear night, learning the tedious task of hanging bear bags, or crowding around a shared bowl of No-Bake Jell-O Pie.

Trip leader Matt Bradley '07 said he loved watching his group go from "scared freshmen to a well-formed and surprisingly bonded group of college students." Tim Kubarych '10 said, "When I came to Hamilton, I thought that AA would turn strangers into friends. Really, it would turn friends into family."

"We had lots of returning leaders," Jillings said. "Having alumni come back is good for students to see that your first year at college leads to all of college which leads to life." Jimmy Kirwan '10 said, "Coming from New York City, I didn't know if I would be able to live outside. But I felt very comfortable around my friends and had good leaders who helped me through."

The camping food was a highlight of the program. Menus included instant oatmeal for breakfast, the infamous cheese blocks for lunch, and Annie's Pasta for dinner. Also, the AA leaders mixed up a mean batch of Gorp, which in addition to having the old favorites like granola, raisins, and peanuts, included M and M's, yogurt covered raisins, Swedish Fish, and dried mango bits. "The food rocked my socks," said Elizabeth Kosar '10.

An exciting part of this year's program was the new Glen House facility that served as a central area for AA's on-campus portion. The building also helped with organizational aspects of the program. "It helped logistically because we had everything in one place," Jillings explained.

Jillings also hopes that the Glen House will facilitate AA reunions throughout the school year, "Now there will be a home base for AA during the year," he stated. Groups can now come to the Glen House, look through their journals, and keep the spirit of AA alive during the year and in years to come. After all, in Jillings' words, "Part of the program is what happens next."

Student Assembly passes baton in club sports

by Eric Kuhn '09
INSIGHTS & IDEAS EDITOR

Thirteen clubs out of 90 are taking 10 percent of the Student Assembly (SA) budget this year. At the first SA meeting of the year, on Monday, August 28, President Eileen Starrett '07 announced there would be a new system of funding club sports. In the past, club sports – not varsity sports, which are funded solely by the athletic department – would submit funding proposals to SA for the remainder of their funding needs not covered by the athletic department.

In a new unanimous decision, the SA will now hand over all responsibilities in regards to club sport finances to a recently created board made up of Director of the Fitness Center and Campus Wellness Dave Thompson (who will oversee all of the money) and one representative from each club sport. The actions of the SA were to wash their hands clean in regards to all sports funding.

"The goal is to use the existing funding model but make clear to club sports exactly how much money they are receiving and where it is coming from. The new model will help club sports budget for their seasons," Starrett said.

Club sports that requested SA funding in 2005-2006 were the alpine ski team, cycling team, equestrian team, men's rugby team, women's rugby team, sailing club, tae kwon do and ultimate Frisbee. The bike co-op, fencing, men's volleyball, water polo and women's golf were club sports that did not request funding or were inactive in 2005-2006.

Thompson, reached late last night, four days after the decision was made, still did not know how much money he would be responsible for overseeing. When The Spectator broke the news to him he responded: "It's like any budget – you can always use more." Optimistic, he says, "I hope to be a strong advocate for club sports and will allocate the money fairly."

Last year's club sports bill was $97,658.12, but they were only able to receive $43,268.38. This year's Student Assembly budget is $270,000. Ten percent of that is going to club sports: a total of $27,000. The clubs will also receive another $16,400 from the Athletic Department, totaling $43,400, roughly the same as last year. At any point there is an apparent need for more money, the committee can petition Student Assembly to receive more funding next year.

Allyson Gaston-Enholm, 2009 Class Representative, was present at the SA meeting when the decision was voted upon. "I think it is a better way to handle the allocation of money for club sports," she said. "It will hopefully draw attention to the fact that club sports need more money than either the current SA or Athletic Department's budget can cover."

Amy Klegarth '09 is the co-captain for the equestrian team and feels that the decision "is a good opportunity" to obtain more funding. Out of all the organizations on campus, Starrett told the SA during the meeting, the Hamilton Action Volunteer Outreach Coalition (HAVOC) has the most amount of members and struggle for adequate funds. She felt it was unfair, saying "It is not fiscally responsible. This is a positive thing – 10 percent is incredibly generous!"

HAVOC has 300 consistent volunteers who participate in activities ranging from building houses for Habitat for Humanity to tutoring inner-city students. Last year they received $1,100 – barely enough to keep afloat – when last semester alone they asked for $12,565.83. The equestrian team has 30 members, requested $17,884.21 in the spring semester and was granted 16.3 percent of that: $2,925.97.

Klegarth believes that it is now only up to the school to see how much they regard the equestrian team and in return how much they want to financially support it. "We have done well in the past and when they see our numbers rise, they cannot ignore that," she said. *The Spectator* was not able to contact Kate Pallin, president of HAVOC, for comment.

"I hope it will be an excellent system where students will have a lot of input and going forward to make club sports as good as possible," Thompson said. "I don't have any worries about it. I know it is going to be a positive thing for the students and I look forward to seeing how it will play out."

New athletic facility near completion

*from **Construction**, page 1*

Blood Fitness and Dance Center, which is scheduled to open September 25, will "triple the fitness space available," says Bellona. The center features a 39 foot tall rock climbing wall, a new dance studio, weight room, fitness atrium, and a highly anticipated juice bar.

"I'm excited about the new juice bar and can't wait to use it after a workout," says freshman Jenny Pistrang. The juice bar is centrally located within the new fitness center and will feature a juice cart to allow more seating and room for fitness goers. Ten new squash courts are also being constructed and will be completed around the September 29.

Some other athletic facility updates include the new concrete floor of Sage Rink, resurfaced tennis courts and heated ramps and steps on the left and right side of Alumni Gym that "will help to speed up the melting of snow," says Bellona. Also, an underground tunnel, which is not yet open, has been created between alumni gym and the new fitness center.

Despite all the construction surrounding the athletic buildings on campus, "only about eight fall semester classes, such as free weights and fitness, have really been impacted," says Susan Viscomi, interim director of athletics. When it comes to the construction's effect on the fall sports teams, Viscomi says, "it has had little effect on them except for maybe the temporary loss of weight training space."

Another main attraction of the recent construction is the lighted pedestrian crosswalk of Martin's Way. The idea for this technologically advanced crosswalk came from an alumni who had seen a similar one at Williams College and asked if Hamilton could add one to aide both pedestrians and drivers. The crosswalk features flashing ground lights and signs that alert drivers either when a pedestrian triggers an underground beam while walking or manually pushes a button on one of the signs.

For the most part, the construction has remained on schedule and will make Hamilton's campus more accessible, safe, and even more visually appealing. For example, the façade of the fitness atrium features spacious windows that will allow passersby to watch their peers while they are climbing up the rock wall or working out. These windows are part of the original 1897 façade of Saunders Hall, now the Blood Fitness and Dance Center, which was covered during a 1971 renovation. So while the construction is bringing in new designs to Hamilton's campus, it is at the same time respecting the school's overall style and history. Much of the unfinished construction will be completed in the coming weeks and should create little if any disturbance to students or faculty. As Susan Viscomi puts it, "whatever minor delays or disruptions we may incur will be well worth the wait in the end."

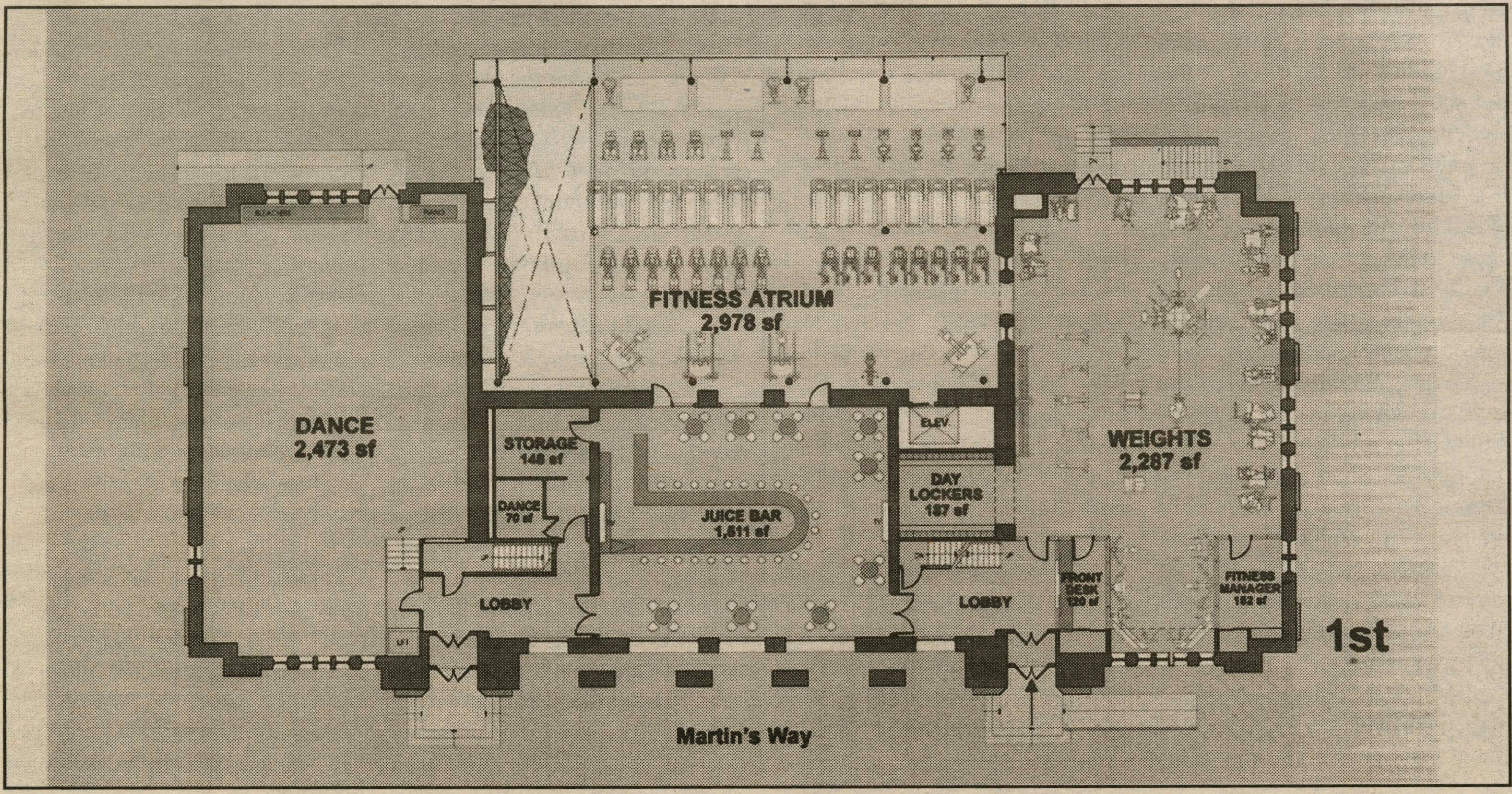

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON.EDU

A floor plan showing the plans for the first floor of the new Blood Fitness and Dance Center, scheduled to open on September 25. To view floor plans for the rest of the building, visit http://www.hamilton.edu/excelsior/athletics/images.html.

Want to write for *Spectator* News?

email ltrubian or efurman for more info.

Diversity and Social Justice Project hosts panel on academic activism

by Alex Morgan '09
News Writer

The Diversity and Social Justice Project held its first event of the year, "Activism in Academia: Local Perspectives," on Wednesday, August 30. A panel of four professors spoke on the subject of going beyond course material and injecting their qwn opinions into classroom discussion.

Panelists included Elihu Root Peace Fund Associate Professor of Women's Studies Vivyan Adair, Sidney Wertimer Associate Professor of History Douglas Ambrose, Associate Professor of Psychology Penny Yee and Associate Professor of Africana Studies Tiffany Patterson.

"An exposure to the knowledge, experiences, and perspectives of others in our classrooms facilitates an expanding, enlarged world view," said Adair. "To be any less activist in our teaching, in our scholarship, and in our own lives is to pay short shrift to the imperative and the potential of higher education in a plural and diverse world."

Adair stressed the need for activism in the classroom and not simply adhering to course material. She feels that the only way students can learn effectively is when they are able to view all perspectives on a particular subject.

Professor Ambrose argued the opposite, emphasizing the importance of adhering to course material. He believes that professors have a responsibility to teach their courses and avoid going too far off topic or giving opinions.

"If [we were to learn that] the world were going to end tomorrow during my Colonial American History class...I would pray that I would continue talking about New England covenants," said Ambrose. He then went on to explain his reasoning behind continuing with his set curriculum, rather than shifting the discussion to reflect campus events. "I am hired to teach a subject, not to give my personal opinion on a campus event...students registered for a particular class, not a running commentary."

Ambrose maintained that he tries to stick within the current accepted knowledge in his field. He argued that information is always in a state of flux, but that some opinions have more basis than others.

Professor Yee maintained that in her experience it was hard to eliminate activism from academia. Personal and professional lives become mixed over the course of teaching a subject.

"It's difficult not to have [academics] blend with your personal and professional life," said Yee. She cited certain acts, such as colleges subsidizing students on financial aid, as evidence that colleges and universities already participate in academic activism as part of their core values.

Yee argued that this kind of activism was necessary and vital to supporting underrepresented populations. Colleges also use endowment funds for other activism projects to better the community. For example, Hamilton uses funds to bring at risk high school students with a predisposed aptitude for science to campus to allow them to use laboratory facilities and experience a campus atmosphere.

Professor Patterson passionately advocated for the use of activism in the classroom.

"I became an activist when I was 17 years old," said Patterson, who grew up during the Civil Rights Movement, a time when protests and marches were part of daily life. She changed her concentration to history because she wanted to better learn the historic roots of current events and how history shapes us. "The past is in the present," said Patterson.

Patterson used the example of showing her students the connection between white dominance in slavery and the arguments being made in the Duke lacrosse rape scandal. She talked about the sterotype of a black woman throughout history as promiscuous and how that stereotype still permeates in today's society. Patterson said that making this connection helped her students to understand the motivations for people's arguments in the current situation.

The Diversity and Social Justice Project, originally known as the Kirkland Project For the Study of Gender Society and Culture, is committed to social justice with a focus on issues of diversity. The Project strives to promote the rigorous interdisciplinary intellectual activity necessary for social justice movements and characteristic of a liberal arts education.

Controversy surrounded the Project two years ago when Ward Churchill, a professor of ethnic studies at the University of Colorado, Boulder was scheduled to speak on campus. Churchill's comments on the victims of 9/11 enraged many around the country and his talk was cancelled due to violent threats received by the College. The programming was cancelled for the remainder of the semester and began again at the end of last semester wih the unveiling of the Project's new name and mission.

"The goal of this project is to create an environment at Hamilton College that is supportive of a diverse range of opinions and to work against injustice in society," said the Project's director Jinnie Garrett. "We really hope that we'll make Hamilton much more supportive of all students that come here."

DSJP events calendar

Monday, September 11
Dr. Alice Dreger
"The role of doctors in the future of normal"
4:00 p.m., KJ Auditorium

Tuesday, September 12
Dr. Alice Dreger
"Something is actually happening: Should academics do something about it?"
7:30 p.m., Science Auditorium

Tuesday, October 10
The Lost Boys of Sudan
In 1987, a civil war drove an estimated 20,000 young boys from their families and villages in Southern Sudan. They fled to Ethiopia to escape death or induction into slavery and the northern army. Some of these boys will tell their story.
7:00 p.m., Chapel

Wednesday, November 8
Dr. Lois Weis
"Unequal outcomes: How families and schools structure social and economic inequalities"
7:00 p.m., KJ Auditorium

Wednesday, February 7
Dr. Robert Bullard
"In the wake of the storm: Environment, Disaster and Race after Katrina"
7:00 p.m., Chapel

Kirkland residents spend three nights at Holiday Inn

*from **Kirkland**, page 1*

by e-mail correspondence from Dean of Students Nancy Thompson.

"Maybe a month before school started there was an e-mail from Nancy Thompson explaining that there was a contingency plan that was being put in place that involved putting people up at the Holiday Inn in New Hartford," stated Lesniewski.

According to Lesniewski, on Friday, August 11 email was sent announcing that rooms had been reserved at the hotel. The e-mail, again from Thompson, stated that "it is our sincere hope that we will not need to implement this plan, but we wanted to give you a heads up about the possibility."

On August 23, "Operation Holiday Inn," as it was affectionately referred to in the e-mail sent to residents, was put into effect.

Kirklanders arrived back to campus this past weekend to store their belongings in a large steel storage pod, and then either took up residence at the Holiday Inn or on the spare futons of friends on campus.

According to Landry, about half of the students remained on campus with friends, and about half stayed at the hotel. He remarked that "students were very cooperative" and mentioned that he even received a phone call from the Holiday Inn saying how polite and respectful the Hamilton students had been.

The College hired the Birnie Bus Company to provide shuttles to and from campus for those who chose to stay at the hotel, but according to Landry, the service was disappointingly unreliable, causing some students to be late to class.

When students received the keys to their rooms on Tuesday, August 29 they found all of their belongings already moved in by Clinton Movers, and a stunningly renovated Kirkland.

There is "certainly a marked improvement," stated Lesniewski. "You can't compare the old building to this one."

However, he went on to jokingly comment on the horrendous state of the old Kirkland, stating that "You would have had a totally new building just fixing the bathroom."

For those of you who remember the Kirkland of old, you will be sad to hear that the gang showers are no more, and have been replaced with entirely separate stalls complete with, according to Bellona, a new ventilation system to improve the airflow; so we can also say goodbye to mold encrusted tiles and running out into the show draped in towels because the steam set off the fire alarms.

However, the bathrooms are hardly the only piece of historical Kirkland that has been renovated. The entire building was completely regutted; the walls of the first, second and third floors have been completely shifted around to make room for single and double rooms, as opposed to Kirkland's previous quads, triples and singles.

However, the most striking feature of Kirkland's renovation would have to be the enormous loft apartments, making up the fourth and fifth floors of the building and comprised of the previous dance studio.

Although the project ran a few days over schedule, both Bellona and Landry expressed immense pleasure over the final product.

Speakers offer words of advice

*from **Convocation**, page 1*

Dean of the Faculty Joseph Urgo. In a speech that could be classified under "Masterpiece Theatre," Dean Urgo's monologue, titled "What Hill?" quoted American writer Ralph Ellison who said: "You cannot know who you are unless you know where you are." The Dean pronounced: "Class of 2010, faculty of Hamilton College, we are on a hill" and recalled the first time he saw "The Hill." He remembered coming to terms with the fact that those words were "not a metaphor." He said, "Class of 2010, we really are on a hill: no clichéd simile for us, no tired trope. Word. Word up. And, alas, here, on the hill, you may continue to ascend, *in college*, or you may roll down with the slow of pace, the hesitant of volition, off the hill, and, ultimately, leashed."

"We ask that you know how to swim so you won't drown on the way to class," Dean Urgo advised. "*What Hill?*, we ask: The hill of the intellectually engaged, lovers of ideas, in pursuit, where above all else – truly, I say, *above all else*, – the idea of the thing is of greater value than the thing itself."

President Joan Hinde Stewart finished the advice giving. She too started by reminiscing about her first time at Hamilton College. She believes that a "residential, liberal arts education is the glory of the educational system." The President also advised "the class of 2010 to give serious thought to your social life, especially drinking and drugs" and then went on to talk about her vision for the school.

She spoke about the qualities that make Hamilton College, Hamilton: "A place where effective communication is praised...students, like faculty must share responsibility...curriculum driven not by responsibly but by challenges..." President Stewart has a vision for Hamilton as "the college [by which] other fine colleges define themselves," and thus said, "I ask you to make Hamilton more like Hamilton: A model for the nation." At the end of her fifteen minutes, she had laid out her vision of a premier college.

Concluding, "Carissima" was sung by the entire auditorium and with that, the new school year began!

The Spectator

Staff Editorial

The Spectator staff would like to welcome back the entire campus community; for those of you that are new to campus: students, professors and administrators, we hope that you are already feeling at home. In an effort to help acclimate those who are new to campus, and reacclimate those who have been absent all summer, *The Spectator* has dedicated this issue to helping promote awareness about activities and groups on campus. In our News and Features sections you will find information regarding new construction projects on campus to better our community, both of these sections also provide information about new faculty members and background on what our new freshmen have been up to during and before Orientation. In Arts and Entertainment you will discover new albums to get you through long nights of studying, and partying as well, and also descriptions of the interesting and diverse clubs you can join. Sports offers previews of the fall seasons to come, and you will find an engaging schedule of speakers in the Science and Technology section. Insights and Ideas includes a wide variety of political and social viewpoints; you will find a host of voices speaking to the current campus construction, as well as a slightly different approach to our traditional humor column, "Thumbs Up/ Thumbs Down." This column has created some controversy over the years, but continues to be a favorite among students.

It is The Spectator's hope that the column will be edgy and funny, providing engaging commentary on current and campus events and sparking discussion on the latest controversies, at times alerting you to their existence. We have provided you with several submissions and encourage your feedback to those printed, as well as your own submissions on the topics we listed to spec@hamilton.edu. Please use this e-mail address throughout the coming year to let us know what offends you, what intrigues you, and what you would like to know more about in our newspaper.

Letters to the editor policy

THE SPECTATOR'S **LETTER TO THE EDITOR SECTION IS DESIGNED TO BE A FORUM FOR THE ENTIRE HAMILTON COMMNUNITY TO DISCUSS AND DEBATE CAMPUS, LOCAL, NATIONAL AND GLOBAL ISSUES. PIECES PUBLISHED IN THE SECTION EXPRESS THE OPINION OF THE INDIVIDUAL WRITERS, AND ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE OPINIONS OF *THE SPECTATOR*, ITS EDITORS, OR THE MEDIA BOARD. LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE WELCOME FROM ALL STUDENTS, ALUMNI/AE, FACULTY, FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE AND HAMILTON COMMUNITY MEMBERS. NEVERTHELESS, *THE SPECTATOR* HAS THE FOLLOWING POLICIES FOR SUBMISSION:**

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2. Letters should be no longer than 650 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* will not edit letters for misspelling, poor grammar or diction.
5. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
6. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

The Spectator

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Insights & Ideas

Thumbs up	Thumbs down	Who cares
Hamilton admissions strongly advising interviews, thankfully bringing in a more attractive and less weird class than last year. Girl's soccer team goes to Brazil: let's hope they all got the national spa treatment *wink wink.* TDX and ATX: thanks for sponsoring the real freshman orientation. Martin's Way extension: now it's easier to squeeze past two freshmen girls who have been hitting the ice cream bin too hard.	Where's Marge??????? How will I know what her son is up to this week? Kirkland not ready on time: I would say it's the most play the Holiday Inn has seen in a long time, but we all know that's not true. Fall sports: all that ice would be of much better use cooling my beer. School's back in session: my inbox is suddenly flooded with more than just porn.	The points system: one year later, it still sucks. The cross walk lights: that'll be really dangerous once you're stoned. Summer Researchers: the summer campers got more ass than they did. *by Ruth Duggan '08 Tess Olson '08, J.P. Maloney '07*
Massage therapy class: School sanctioned groping makes this one a can't miss! Studly construction workers: May their hard work and hard bodies be an example for our young freshmen. Barn Party: It's harvest time.	Road safety takes a turn for the worse as we paint the crosswalk with the remains of several seizure victims. New ice cream flavors couple with the extreme lack of fitness center... the freshmen 15 turns into the freshman 40.	Climbing wall: Shouldn't we be climbing the US News and World Report rankings? Rise in tuition: At this point it's just kind of funny. *by Steve Allinger '09 & Tyler Zink '07*
30's of Keystone...$11.34 Juggling Club: Teaching Freshman girls the correct ball handling form. one at a time ladies, one at a time. Continuing the Gaylord legacy. I hope someone is empowered enough to pour salad dressing in my shoes.	The lack of gym facilities taking away our skinny students one scoop of muddy sneakers at a time. The readjustment to commons food. Would someone pass the immodium? *by Cam Gaylord '09*	The exclusive Tuesday night "White Party." It's good to see people celebrating Hamilton's diversity. Getting made fun of by a sophomore.
A "Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down" contest (see below). Dean Urgo's connvocation's speech... sorry Stewart, you were upstaged. Eric not in the "Hamilton News" site his first week back. The new microbrews at the Nice and Easy.	The Science Center Lovers. Trying to beef up the Hamilton events callender with the outdoor sculpture gallery...And they wonder why we drink! Teaching Colonia America while the world explodes. Yep...Still Ward.	Renovating the K-town showers: gang bang no more. 6th year seniors: We know who you are! Lisa Mag's Nightmare: An entire page of Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down. *by Ian Fitzgerald '08, Brent Franklin '07, Greg Stathes '07, Dan Carroll '07, Ty Moore '07 and Henry Scarisberg '07*

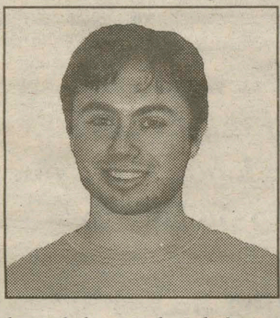
COMPETITION:

Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down is looking for the best critical, comical writer. Above are those who contaced us last year, but we want to still hear from you. Email spec@ hamilton.edu with TU/TD jokes based on the following campus events/controversies and we will run the winner (who will then continue on for the rest of the year) next week:

Construction, The Continental, Make a Difference Day, The lack of events on the events calendar/ nothing to do on campus, CAB comedian, the dark side ditches, the Jefferson/Hamilton Debate, the DSJP discussion panel last week, and three of your choosing!

Left! Right! Hamilton, let's fight!

This week's topic: Morning-After Pill



by Blake Hulnick '09
Insights & Ideas Writer

Last Thursday, August 24, the Food and Drug Administration approved Plan B, otherwise known as the morning-after pill, for over-the-counter sales. The FDA is the government agency charged with insuring the safety of the foods and medicines available to Americans, and as such has rigorous scientific review mechanisms in place to verify manufacturers' claims. Plan B, manufactured by Barr Pharmaceuticals, has been available for years by prescription and is now sold without a prescription to people over the age of eighteen. At no point during the contentious battle for approval was the safety of the drug seriously questioned by anyone with competent knowledge of the science involved.

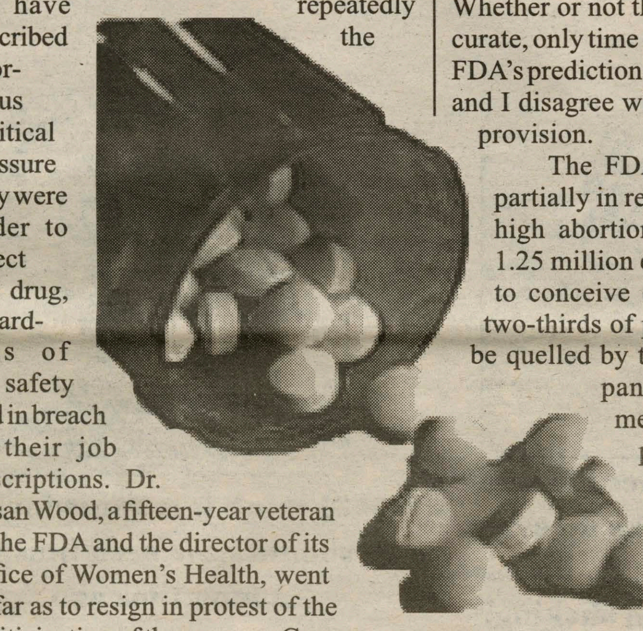
Needless to say, this excludes someone like Senator Tom Coburn, who seems unable to decide whether he is a non-practicing physician or a non-practicing Senator. Coburn believes the hormone doses in *the Plan B contraceptive pill* pose a health risk for the women who take it; all of the FDA panels that reviewed the drug unanimously disagree. His mistaken belief that an open microphone in the Senate chamber is somehow tantamount to a legitimate scientific review is frustratingly reminiscent of Bill Frist's ludicrous remote diagnosis in the Terry Schiavo case.

Although they mask their ideology behind invented science, opponents of Plan B's over-the-counter designation primary believe that wider availability of the pill will lead to increases in risky and promiscuous sexual behavior. For this reason, most opponents of the recent approval actually oppose any availability of such a contraceptive, and merely saw this as an opportunity to chip away at its accessibility. To believe that Plan B, in prescription form or otherwise, encourages risky behavior is to discount logic. The morning after pill will still do nothing to protect against sexually transmitted diseases, and the pill's preventative abilities do not go beyond those of existing legal contraception. In the end, people who practice risky behavior will continue to do so regardless of the available avenues of protection. For everyone else, there is no sense in demonizing responsible,and private, decision-making.

For some reason, many social conservatives continue to hold the belief that safe, legal birth control will precipitate the downward spiral of our society into mad, Dionysian nihilism. So far, no evidence has been offered to even remotely suggest that Plan B will increase abortion rates, and in fact it is likely to lower them. Even by the most stringent definitions of when human existence begins, the morning after pill does not end a microscopic life. Rather, it is designed to prevent fertilization altogether, and according to most research it does so in a reliable manner.

The mechanics of baby-making aside, the mission of the FDA is to insure the safety and well-being of consumers by keeping dangerous drugs and foods off the market. At no time was the agency intended to reinforce the moral values or religious beliefs of elected officials. Although Plan B can be considered culturally controversial—as evidenced by the fight put up by pious policymakers facing challenging reelection campaigns with little record to run on—the science behind the drug's safety was never disputed. That means the years-long delay in the drug approval process has been nothing short of a disgraceful interference.

Years ago, even before the research on Plan B had concluded, top-ranking agency administrators made the decision to reject the application under pressure from Republican officials. Numerous officials below the highest-level FDA commissioners have repeatedly described the enormous political pressure they were under to reject the drug, regardless of its safety and in breach of their job descriptions. Dr. Susan Wood, a fifteen-year veteran of the FDA and the director of its Office of Women's Health, went as far as to resign in protest of the politicization of the process. Government scientists were barred from doing their jobs, and a once proud agency was reduced to operating under the shackles of Republican ideology.



Regrettably, this should come as no surprise. When dealing with an administration that believes evolution and creation are comparable theories and that the jury is out on global warming, very little should be surprising. NASA scientist James Hansen resigned last year over the mandate that he redact portions of their environmental reports that mention the obvious effects of global warming, for no other reason than the awkward conflict it creates with the widespread Republican refusal to admit the problem is real. More recently still, the phrase "to understand and protect our home planet" has been removed from the NASA mission statement.

The President's recent use of his first veto to block funding for stem cell research is merely another item in the long list of regressive actions this administration has taken to obstruct science and reason. If Andrew von Eschenbach's Senate confirmation as FDA Commissioner had not stalled pending Plan B approval, the application would never have seen the light of day.

This November, voters should remember which party has schemed tirelessly to tarnish the United States' reputation as the world center for science and humanistic thinking, and bring the embarrassment to an end.

by Maria Sullivan '10
Insights & Ideas Writer

Last week the FDA sanctioned the use of the morning-after pill for women (18 and over) without a prescription. The pill is effective up to 72 hours after sexual intercourse, and basically prevents the implantation of the egg in the womb by impeding ovulation through the release of the hormones progestin and estrogen. The administration's rationale is that wider availability of the pill will result in approximately 1.5 million less accidental pregnancies and about 800,000 less abortions yearly. Whether or not these predictions are accurate, only time can tell. I don't think the FDA's predictions will come into fruition, and I disagree with the administration's provision.

The FDA passed this measure partially in response to our country's high abortion rates: approximately 1.25 million each year. It's ludicrous to conceive (no pun intended) that two-thirds of potential abortions will be quelled by this pill. Condom companies and birth control methods boast to be 99 percent effective. The reason that most teens end up pregnant is because they have unsafe sex. Why? Embarrassment mostly. Guys are apparently ready to have sex, but they don't have the guts to go into the store and buy some condoms. Laziness is probably a contributor as well.

Sex often happens unexpectedly, and alcohol can also prevent people from thinking clearly, thus making them more vulnerable to the idea of having sex without considering the use of contraception first. But one thing is for sure: with condoms ranging from $0.50 to $1.00, there is no way that money is an issue. And if a couple that is not open to pregnancy is not responsible enough to use a form of birth control, or too lazy to purchase a condom, most likely they will not purchase a pill whose cost ranges from $25 to $40 after the fact.

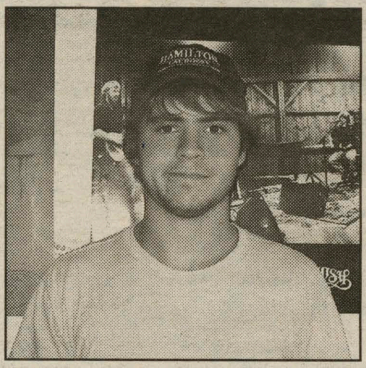
We teens think we're invincible. That's why some of us don't use birth control and, as a result, end up with an unwanted pregnancy. Therefore, it is unlikely that we'd buy the morning-after pill after making a conscious decision to have unprotected sexual intercourse. Instead we'd wait until we were three weeks late on our periods, go to a health clinic, freak out when we find out we're pregnant, then pay $350 to $700 to get an abortion. Teenage logic.

I know that so far I've only focused on one usage, in the case of consensual sex, but I just wanted to express that right off the bat the numbers which the FDA have predicted abortion rates to drop seem faulty.

Secondly, I think the premise which the FDA has decided to legalize over-the-counter use of the morning after pill (to lower the abortion rate) is flawed. In my opinion, the morning-after pill is masked abortion. In a sense it's a birth control method; it interferes with ovulation. But in the cases where ovulation does occur and the sperm joins with the egg, the hormones released by the pill prevent the egg from attaching to the womb, essentially killing a joined egg and sperm. So I don't think the administration should present easy access to the morning-after pill as a method to lower the abortion rate, because this method of "birth control" still has the ability to kill potential life. It seems like the pill was mass-released to lower the cost and increase the efficiency of getting rid of unwanted children. This brings me to my next point: that over-the-counter availability of the morning-after pill could be responsible for the further degradation of societal values . . . and the fact that the thought of killing potential life makes my stomach turn.

In my opinion, Roe v. Wade has lowered the United States' moral standards, and this new measure passed by the FDA is bound to continue the trend. Whether Americans like to admit it or not, our country was built on religious values, moral beliefs, and the Protestant work ethic. Taking responsibility for one's actions seems to fit into this framework. Presenting people with the option to take the easy way out leads to a vicious cycle of increased bad behavior which the legalization of abortion has contributed to and the widespread availability of the morning-after pill is likely to perpetuate. Our society has gone haywire. People think it's okay to have sex with multiple partners, impregnate random women, and kill fetuses. All of these actions slight the growth of a healthy, productive society, for the basis of such a society is the mental health of its people, determined mainly by the quality of relationships. When options are put out to help the "what if" cases, like the woman who was violently raped, the general public seems to abuse them.

Whenever I have a political discussion about abortion or the morning-after pill, it's inevitable that my left-wing counterpart will retort with the raped victim scenario. I think that we should be more concerned about the negative effect the morning-after pill and abortion could and does have on the morality of our society as a whole than these extreme cases. Besides, the circumstances surrounding alleged rapes are often cloudy. But, again, I do understand that rape does happen and that these are horrible circumstances. Maybe the government should make an exception for such extreme cases, but then again you always run into the problem of distinguishing between valid reasons for the use of emergency contraception. Truthfully, even the children of raped victims have a right to live, and a power higher than humans should decide whether or not a child should be brought onto this Earth.



"It is frustrating! It is my first year here and it is not done yet. I guess it is for the best."

~Christian Kunhardt '10

"They should have finished ALL of it over the summer."

~Dan 'Hollywood' Hewitt '07 and Jesse Kotch '07

"The construction is a good sign. It shows that Hamilton has money."

~Jennifer Vano '09

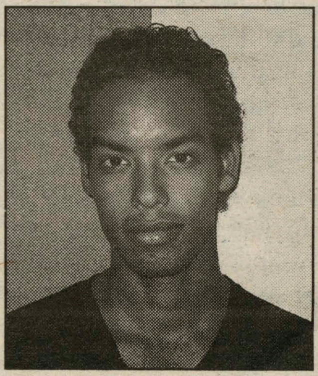
"I think it is wonderful, especially for the students living in Kirkland! Have you been up to the loft area?"

~Christina Brewer '07

Hamilton Unscripted

This week's question: What do you think about all the construction on campus?

by Nonny Diana Chizea '08

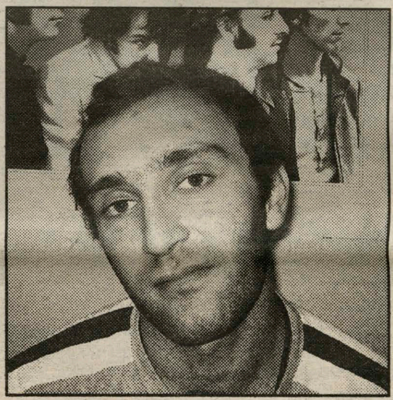


"I think it is unfortunate that it takes a student falling into a ditch, to realize that there are problems like these that need to be addressed on campus."

~Jason Hass '07

"I was here over the summer and I woke up every morning at 6 a.m. because my bed started shaking!"

~Ramunas Rozgyz '09



"I think it is annoying! It should have been finished a long time ago."

~ Giorgi Chavleishvili '08

"It does not bother me, but when I think about Hamilton, construction does not come to mind."

~Diana Rosinus '07

USE trip brings students to Utica for service projects

from USE, page 2

Hamilton College life for this small group of first year students, but also to instill the desire in these students for service in the community. This week long volunteer trip is a time to connect with fellow students and faculty as together they reach out beyond the Hamilton campus to influence the larger urban Utica.

Through involvement in USE, many participants remarked on the new awareness they have to the adverse conditions in nearby Utica. Hannah Fazio '09, said of the environment she witnessed during the week, "I think just seeing how close Hamilton is to some of these problems was really powerful but it was also interesting to see how much Hamilton students can really help." Even leaders, having been involved in USE for over two years, still were stirred by the scenes found in the city.

"Every time we were at a project or navigating the city my understanding that we take our campus, conveniences, and communities for granted increased exponentially," Michael Viveiros '08, recalled of his trips through Utica's West Street, an underprivileged portion of the city.

Although exposed to the impoverished image of Utica, some students, including first year student Christina Stanton, noted the unity in the city. Stanton explained, "I'm from Baltimore and I have been doing service projects there for years, and the amount of organizations in Utica compared to the amount in Baltimore was astonishing…that sense of community gave me a really great impression of the city."

Besides the two-projects-a-day work schedule, the students were also exposed to some of the culture and cuisine in the city of Utica. Some days the students dined at local restaurants, including Pho Mekong Noodles, the Pizza Place and the Ice Cream Factory. One night, they had a Tex-Mex fiesta in Professor Ambrose's home; they also toured Matt's Brewery and experienced some "amusing adventures," as Viveiros worded it, on the Jitney between sites. At the conclusion of the week, whereas the group usually unites with the Adirondack Adventure groups for a weekend ropes course retreat, USE instead took a white water rafting trip on the Black River in Watertown. They then sailed to Grindstone Island in Clayton for a weekend of rest from their hard week of work before they all returned to campus for Orientation.

Orientation week called a success

from Orientation, page 2

Village of Clinton for the first annual Arts and Music Festival and area shopping attractions.

The more light-hearted events won admiration from the students, with mentalist Dr. Al Snyder being mentioned by many students as a highlight. First-year Kanagaki agreed, saying "He was really funny. It was a great break from all the icebreakers."

Another first-year, Danica Wuelfing, enjoyed other parts of the program. "The streakers were the highlight for me."

PlayFair, a large icebreaker event and the self-proclaimed "most popular campus attraction in the history of New Student Orientation programs," enjoyed more mixed reviews. "I guess it was good, but when you meet that many people it's hard to remember anyone," said Kanagaki.

Beside a first-year student who got lost along the way and had to ask for directions at Colgate, Raimondi and Ryan reported no glitches in the program. Commenting on the success of the program Ryan wished to thank the members of the Hamilton community who made it happen. "It's a hell of a lot of work but we couldn't do it without the help of almost every office and academic department on campus."

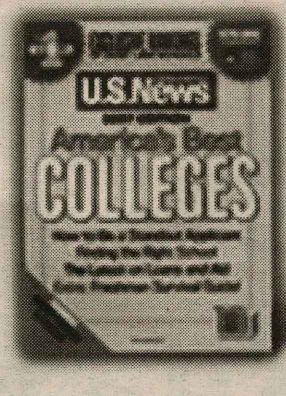
Joan: We went DOWN 2 SPOTS...what happened?

by Rebecca Griffith '09
Insights & Ideas Writer

Some students may remember the hype that surrounded Hamilton last year when it tied with Colgate University for the fifteenth spot on *US News'* list of top liberal arts colleges. The news was plastered all over the schools websites, mentioned on every prospective tour, and constantly reminded to the students by the proud administration This year the school remained mute about its rank, because this year students returned to a seventeenth ranked school.

In *US News*' "America's Best Liberal Arts Colleges 2007" Hamilton was named seventeenth best liberal arts college in a tie with Washington and Lee University in Virginia.

The question then beomes why Hamilton failed to remain on the top fifteen list with schools such as Williams and Amherst, number one and two respectively. *US News* took into account such factors as acceptance rate, the percentage of full time faculty, student to faculty ratios, freshman retention rate, as well as alumni giving rates and averages. While it would be simple and easy to blame the alumni and demand that they donate more generously for the good of the school; the fact remains that Hamilton remains behind such schools as Vassar, Bowdoin, Middlebury and Colgate.



In a recent issue of *Newsweek* Kaplan College Guide named 25 "New Ivies." These were schools that were selected based on admissions statistics and interviews to be "world class schools" and the "new" Ivy Leagues. Colgate and Skidmore, which Hamilton ranked higher than in *US News,* were named as one of the twenty five while schools such as Amherst, Williams and Middlebury were listed by those school's admission's directors as "rival schools." Hamilton did not appear at all.

Certainly there is no shame at being ranked seventeenth out of the 215 liberal arts colleges in America, however there is room for improvement. While the new Science Center is a fantastic addition to the campus and a new gym is much appreciated, the fact remains that these schools beat Hamilton out in categories such as ethnic and economic diversity, lowest acceptance rate, and graduation rate. Of the forty schools listed under the "Best Value" category Hamilton ranked in at thirty-four.

When comparing Hamilton with Williams, the number one liberal arts school, some things become painfully obvious. Williams has a faculty to student ratio of 7 to 1 as opposed to our 9.3 to 1. Their freshman had higher SAT averages and a higher percentage of their freshmen were in the top 10 percent of their high school graduating class. Williams also has an acceptance rate of 19 percent as opposed to Hamilton's 36 percent. What this boils down to is that Hamilton's entering freshman classes are growing larger and larger while the top liberal arts schools are accepting fewer students and as a result are rising in rank based on the criteria of the survey.

Of course these surveys are limited to the aspects of colleges that can be quantified and do not take into account the campus, actual classes, or the social atmosphere of Hamilton. Seventeen is an impressive number but Hamilton should remain constant or be gaining in rank. Currently Hamilton probably ranks number one in number of dirt piles and construction crews on a liberal arts campus.

It is clear that some changes must be made in addition to the numerous physical changes the school is going through to make sure that we maintain the quality of excellence that we've come to expect from this college. After all the students of Hamilton view it as "world class" so we must do our best to make sure that the rest of the nation does as well.

Tyrannical King George...Bush II

by Kye Lippold '10
Insights & Ideas Writer

"When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another..."

How many readers recognize these words immediately? I think I can safely say that the opening of the Declaration of Independence is one of the most recognizable pieces of writing for American citizens. Yet how many of us know what the Declaration says after its first paragraph? When I opened the textbook for my American Political Process class, I came across the Declaration in the appendix and decided to read the entire thing for the first time. Most of the Declaration is a condemnation of good old King George III of Great Britain, but what interested me was how many of the claims made against the King are also relevant against another "George" that we all know. Read a few of them and consider just why American colonists might have gotten so upset that they, you know, started a Revolution.

"He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public Good." Who remembers the NSA wiretapping scandal from a year ago? It turned out George had authorized a secret spying program in the wake of the September 11th attacks, which allowed the National Security Agency to eavesdrop on telephone calls from American citizens. Just one problem with this idea: it was illegal. The Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, passed in the 1970's, specifically outlawed such types of surveillance. The reason? A little incident involving the Watergate Hotel in Washington and the use of spying by President Nixon against political or foreign opponents. Congress, in the wake of Nixon's disgrace, thought such a law was "necessary for the public Good," and a U.S. District Court judge confirmed this on August 17th when she ruled that the program was unconstitutional, according to the ACLU website. Leaders do some pretty crazy things, eh?

"He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing Importance, unless suspended in their Operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them." It was a shock to many people, myself included, when the words "America is addicted to oil" appeared in the 2006 State of the Union Address, considering that the administration had ignored that problem for five straight years. Sea levels are on the rise, yet the United States has continued its refusal of the Kyoto Protocol or any such initiative; how many Katrinas will it take to make global warming have "pressing importance?"

"He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the Tenure of their Offices, and Amount and Payment of their Salaries." Well, that's already part of our political system. But George has put some "Judges dependent on his WIll" into some pretty important positions... And some pretty shady judges too. A recent Supreme Court case (decided by the two new judges, according to the ACLU website) ruled that police officers with warrants don't have to provide warning before breaking down doors; obviously, the previous law about knocking and waiting thirty seconds just couldn't be tolerated. I read an interesting article about the ruling in my local paper "Seven Days," where author Judith Levine wondered how the ruling would apply to Florida where homeowners have the right to shoot anyone entering their home. Levine pointed out that it wouldn't take much in this situation for a homeowner to panic and kill an entering officer. Funny, I thought this ruling was supposed to make it easier for the police.

"He has erected a Multitude of new Offices, and sent hither Swarms of Officers to harass our People, and eat out their Substance." The Department of Homeland Security will consume about $450 per American household by 2006, according to the American Enterprise Institute paper "What Does Homeland Security Spending Buy?" About $10 billion of this (one-fifth of this year's funding) went to better airline screening--you know, the scanners, pat-downs, and no nail clippers on planes. But last year the Transportation Security Administration relaxed many of its security policies, pointing out that improving cockpit door security and having armed air marshals on a plane is a much better safety expenditure than taking away knitting needles. Has all the DHS money been well spent? You decide.

"He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Power." CNN reported that last year even one of President Bush's commissions agreed that the intelligence for going into Iraq was flawed. Yet we continue to keep soldiers there. Congress did have a say in sending troops then, but now there is a growing anti-war movement in Congress. The administration's response? Call them "terrorists."

"He has combined with others to subject us to a Jurisdiction foreign to our Constitution, and unacknowledged by our Laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:" With a slim Republican majority, our president has been able to enact a bundle of laws with dubious results. These laws include:

"For quartering large Bodies of Armed Troops among us:" U.S. Citizens are protected from this by the Third Amendment, thank goodness. But Army and Marine Corps servicepeople continue to have their terms of duty extended (so they can be kept in Iraq longer than they signed up for), and reservists are continuing to be called up.

"For imposing taxes on us without our Consent:" Actually, considering Republicans have passed laws giving a huge tax cut to the wealthy (40 percent of it to the richest one percent of Americans, according to political science professors Jacob Hacker and Paul Pierson in their book "Off Center"), I'd rather have George impose taxes on us. Or think of it as giving us a huge budget deficit (which means taxation in the future, folks) "without our Consent."

"For depriving us, in many Cases, of the Benefits of Trial by Jury:" And

"For transporting us beyond the Seas to be tried for pretended Offences:" Don't even get me started on Guantanamo Bay, extradition for torture, or secret "enemy combatant" trials. These things have no place whatsoever in American society or a modern world. There is no justification for imprisoning people indefinitely and torturing them. None. If the lives of others are at stake (i.e. we capture an actual terrorist who is planning an attack), at least keep them on American soil and make the process transparent. Secret torture can only mean Abu Gharib.

"For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighboring Province, establishing therein an arbitrary Government, and enlarging its Boundaries, so as to render it at once an Example and fit Instrument for introducing the same absolute Rule in these Colonies:" Some have said the invasion of Iraq was a power play to control Middle East oil. Maybe they're just paranoid...

"For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:" See all of the above.

"He is, at this Time, transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to complete the Works of Death, Desolation, and Tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty and Perfidy, scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous Ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized Nation." Well, that one is a bit extreme. Although there are mercenary companies working in Iraq, a war begun by "Perfidy."

To be fair, not every article in the Declaration applies to the modern day; only 13 out of the original 27 "Facts" about King George are displayed here. But the parallels are chilling. Perhaps there's a reason that many Republicans in the upcoming elections are trying to "dissolve the political bonds" that link them to the president; we'll soon see how well they succeed.

Eric and Ben can't draw and aren't funny.

If you can do both of these come join the Spec staff as the cartoonist

contact

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p.s. - we had nothing else to fill this page - so if you want to write for us, email us today.

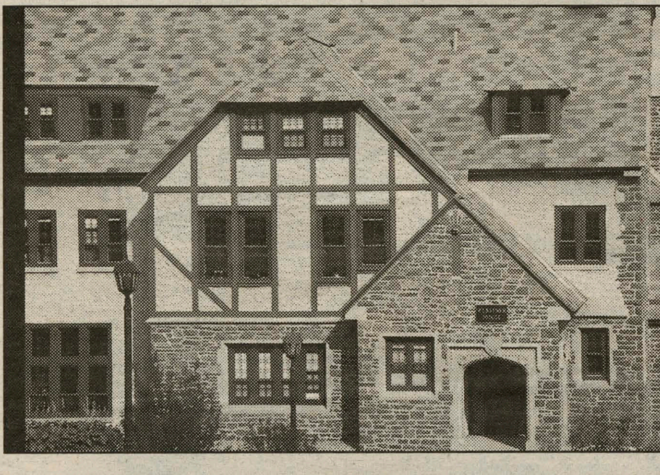
Advertisements

Features

What's New On the Hill

by Martin Connor '09
Features Editor

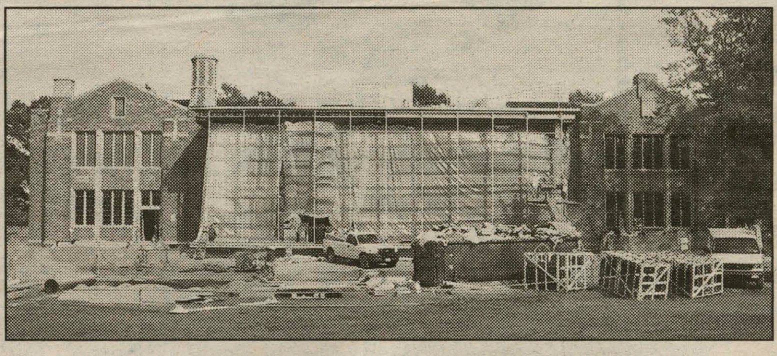
REAL New Wertimer House



Wertimer House is now home to the REAL Program: Residential Engagement in Academic Life.

This year Hamilton is home to a new academic program based out of Wertimer House, which in turn now serves as home to 40 members of the class of 2010 who have enrolled in the Residential Engagement in Academic Life Program (REAL). Wertimer House, located near Skenandoa House and Wally Johnson House, is composed of 20 doubles that serve as housing for first-years enrolled in REAL, a large lounge area, a large living room, a dining room, a laundry room, and housing for two Residential Advisors. The program itself seeks to incorporate both components of residential life and academic life at Hamilton into a unique first-year experience in which socializing and studying exist in close proximity. Every student enrolled in the program will take one class taught in Wertimer House, and the faculty members who teach these courses will also serve as faculty advisors to the program.

Soon Construction Workers Won't Be the Only Ones Breaking a Sweat at the New Fitness Center



A rock-climbing wall will replace scaffolding as the preferred means of ascension when the new Fitness Center opens.

This years students can look forward to the completion of the new Fitness Center and Squash Center. The Fitness Center is currently under construction in the old Saunders Chemistry building and will feature an array of exercise machines, new weight lifting facilities, a juice bar and even a climbing wall. The Squash Center, which is being built adjacent to the Field House, will feature ten new international regulation size courts and will allow Hamilton to host competitions that it previously could not due to the absence of international regulation courts. Although construction of both facilities has been delayed, both are nearing completion. The squash courts are scheduled to open the week of October 2 and the Fitness Center the week of September 25.

Kirkland's New Face

Kirkland's New Look

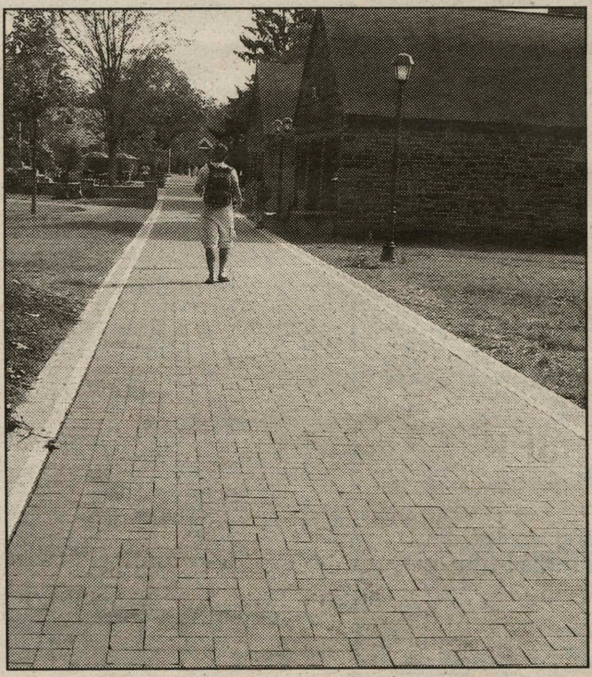
This past Tuesday renovation of the Kirkland Residence Hall was completed, marking the end of Kirkland residents's brief stay at the Holiday Inn and much anticipated return to life on campus. Renovations left Kirkland with an admirable new front facade, complete with new stairs. The work on the inside is also notable. The fourth floor, which had previously been used as a dance studio, is now home to four two-story student apartements that house two each. The Kirkland renovations were more extensive than those that took place recently in North Residence Hall, and although Kirkland no longer houses first-year students, retuning upperclassmen are undoubtedly releived to have such a nice home on campus, finally.

Bigger, Brighter Crosswalk

Traffic stops to allow students to cross College Hill.

As students have undoubtedly noticed, the new Hamilton crosswalk debuted this week at the intersection of Martin's Way and College Hill Road. This intersection now features the latest in crosswalk safety technology, stopping just short of professionals to hold students' hands as they cross. Some of the highlights include extensive blinking lights and a pedestrian sensor system that warns traffic of potential street-crossers. Whether you're enjoying the comfort of a worry free stroll across College Hill Road or trying to disregard the incessant blinking lights as you drive your car towards up the hill, you'll be sure to notice this addition to the Hamilton Campus.

Martin Finds his Way Across Campus



Martin's Way will soon extend across campus.

This year the much-anticipated completion of Martin's Way is just around the bend. Construction was first begun on Martin's Way over a decade ago, but only the segment from College Hill Road to the Kirkland side of campus was completed. Progress has since continued, including the completion of the segment in front of commons several years ago. However, this year will mark the completion of Martin's Way according to its original design and the familiar red brick path will extend across campus from the Kirkland side to the Science Center Circle. Construction is currently underway from both ends and completion is scheduled for September 8.

Hamilton Outdoor Leadership Center

On August 23 Hamilton College dedicated the New Outdoor Leadership Center. The Center is located in the old Glen House next to The Little Pub. The house, which has previously served as home to the Dean of Students and Associate Dean of Faculty and also as an art studio for Elihu Root's son, underwent a number of renovations this summer. These renovations, funded by an anonymous gift, left the Center with a working fireplace, an outside deck that seats 50, offices for Adirondack Adventure, the Outing Club, the Bike Co-op, the Ski and Snowboard Guild and Director of Outdoor Activities Andrew Jillings, and largely increased storage space for many of Hamilton's outdoor programs. The Center will serve as a social space and will be open to all students.

Administrators dedicate the new Hamilton Outdoor Leadership center.

First-Years Undergo Orientation and AA

by Mallory Reed '10
Features Writer

And so it hits: classes have officially started here on the Hamilton Hill. After what for many first-year students seemed like an endless orientation process, confrontation with the realities of college life is quite a change. They have handled this critical transition in a variety of ways and have experienced an extensive range of emotions. For some, like Brian Milstone, the week was generally "better than expected."

Yet for others, such as Hannah Adams, "orientation was so overwhelming." However, as I stalked my way around the campus that has become our new home, I discovered the predominant feeling to be one of undeniable excitement.

In the week before orientation, cries of "College!" and "dead bug!" resonated through the Adirondack Park as nearly 40 percent of the first-year Hamilton Students were grouped and scattered through the wilderness. According to Thomas Coppola, "Adirondack Adventure was good because the hardest part about college isn't making friends, it's about making one friend. Once you have that one friend, the circle just expands." The participants slept under the stars in patches of wild mint, boiled lake water for oatmeal in the misty hours of the morning, fought with effectively packing and then carrying their backpacks and "leaned into the cheese." It was as they struggled to paddle upstream and wilted under the weight of their gear that the Adirondack Adventure participants came to know and appreciate each other. Late at night, covered in bug spray and shivering in their crazy-creek chairs before a dying fire, they sang camp songs and felt the contagious effects of friendship.

Once the Adirondack Adventure students gratefully crawled their way back to the hill, many of them feeling tired and dirty, but ineffably accomplished and with a core group of new friends, they were anxious to meet the rest of the class of 2010. There was little knowledge of the whirlwind week of ice-breaker games, sweaty handshakes, stressful class selections and late nights ahead of them. It all began with Playfair, an event my orientation leader, Ben Lee, was instructed to describe to us as "the most fun of your life." As they strutted into the field house, the bold boogying and bopping their way through the line of RA's, OL's, and classmates, the first-years caught a glimpse of the fun, vibrant and supportive nature of the Hamilton community. However, for many the night slowly digressed into an onslaught of noise and confusion in which they were confronted with a slew of faces and names in rapid succession. For Stephanie Anglin, "my least favorite part [of orientation] was Playfair. I learned people's names but didn't actually meet anybody."

After the shock of the first night on campus, the new students found themselves ready to discover all things Hamilton. They began to attach names to faces of fellow classmates and were soon moving into deeper subjects in conversations, unearthing and appreciating each other's similarities and differences. They retreated into their dorm rooms to expand their network of Facebook friends and keep pals from home up-to-date on new experiences. A few first-years discovered the beautiful Root Glen, which according to Lindsay Getman is "a world away from campus. It makes me love Hamilton a lot more."

Finding themselves removed from the comforts and predictabilities of home, the first-years bonded together to face the unknown. Laura DeFrank revealed, "I'm excited because I've never separated myself from my family. Independence is great but it hasn't hit my yet that I'm not going home in a week." Together the freshmen and women navigated through Commons, searched out the laundry machines, and organized their dorm rooms. Some, like Milstone, found that "South has the biggest, nicest rooms ever." In regards to dining, they realized that Common's pizza is an entirely different foodstuff than that at McEwen, and the free ice cream and French fries are always a good thing.

Tom Morrell commented, "The food's really good for college food and I like that the food service tries to be socially responsible."

Orientation progressed with activities such as a presentation on alcohol, a campus-wide barbeque, and a speech on diversity by Maura Cullen, which according to Jackie Shuck was "very inspiring."

Shun Yi Chao described orientation as being "helpful," but explained that "some of the activities were fun but some were not necessary."

According to Reva Narula, "the best part of orientation was the end." Class registration proved to be the low point for many as long lines, indecisiveness, and confusion produced some disappointment.

Andrew Pape commented, "It was highly aggravating being in the last name group."

Still, many made the best of the situation, like Laura DeFrank who said, "there are so many interesting classes, I felt I couldn't go wrong."

With the return of the upperclassmen, the first-years were met with an entirely new group of faces and personalities. When asked about her feelings on the Hamilton Community, Alex Ossola commented, "I feel privileged because there are so many smart and interesting people and I feel lucky to be a part of Hamilton."

Katy Lafen added, "I feel really excited to be a part of the community. Every time I see a tour [of prospective students] it makes me smile a little. I'm glad to have gotten through it."

Many can agree with Stephanie Anglin when she says, "I feel accepted and proud."

With the inevitable start of classes, some like Elijah LaChance, discovered that "there seems to be an attitude of no messing around like in high school."

Linley Nyiel-Bub commented, "A lot is expected. It's a whole new thing to get back into classes after a long summer." She added, "I'm a little bit nervous about the homework for classes but excited to get closer to everyone here."

The general emotion of the Class of 2010 seems to be one of apprehension and excitement as the students embark on this academic and social journey that is college. They have now been orientated into the Hamilton Community and are proud to be Hamilton students. Hannah Adams says it best: "You work so hard and now you're finally here."

HAVOC's annual Make a Difference Day tomorrow

by Laura Trubiano '07
News Editor

Hundreds of Hamilton students will dedicate their first Saturday of the semester, tomorrow, to serving the local community during Hamilton Action Volunteer Outreach Coalition's (HAVOC) annual Make a Difference Day. Each year students volunteer in groups, such as residence halls of sports teams, or individually to participate in several service projects, ranging from landscaping to playing Scrabble with elderly residents, around the Utica area.

Make a Difference Day traditionally occurs early in the semester in order to inspire students, particularly first-years, to consider volunteer opportunities throughout their time at Hamilton. "Generally, the hope is to do an event like this at the beginning of the semester to open the door to the Utica experience, get students into Utica…and have a range of volunteer experiences," said Jeff McArn, the College Chaplain and faculty advisor for HAVOC. "[We try to] start the thought process for getting involved, especially for first-years, but really everyone."

Planning for an event like this takes a lot of work, but, says Kate Pallin '07, President of HAVOC, "the HAVOC executive board is happy to do it because we hope that these four hours of service will inspire people to volunteer on a regular basis." Of course, the community benefits from Make a Difference Day, too. "I called over 30 organizations in Utica to see if we could help them in any way, and the typical response was, 'We LOVE Hamilton students!'" said Pallin. "I think that Hamilton students have earned this reputation—for example, every semester, students approach HAVOC looking to start new service projects—and I hope that after Make a Difference Day, first-year students will uphold Hamilton's tradition of giving back to the community."

This year, close to 200 participants, including groups such as TKE, KSA and Gamma Xi, will work on nine different service projects around Utica. They include washing windows and gardening at Abraham House, a hospice-style home for the terminally ill; volunteering with the Red Cross; cleaning and setting up a new exhibit at the Utica Children's Museum; sorting donations at Emmaus House, an outreach program for young women who are homeless or without resources; landscaping at For the Good, the organization that runs the popular Study Buddies program; preparing a meal at Hope House, a soup kitchen; working with elderly residents at the Loretto Center, an elder-centered community; staining outdoor sheds at Upstate Cerebral Palsy, a provider of services for individuals who are physically, developmentally, or mentally challenged and their families; and publicizing and planning an upcoming event at the Underground Café, a teen center started by Haley Reimbold '06 ,with local high school students. The day will begin with registration and Dunkin Donuts at 11 a.m. in the Barn and Annex. Following breakfast, volunteers will depart for their project sites, where they will work until 4 p.m. The day concludes with a BBQ dinner catered by Bon Appetit in the Pavilion.

To get involved with HAVOC or find out more about their semester- and year-long volunteer opportunites, stop by the HAVOC Activities Fair on September 6 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Annex or email HAVOC@hamilton.edu.

The Spectator
welcomes
Jean Burke, Staff Assistant
Shannon Hitchcock, Area Director for East Campus
&
Janine Knight '05, Area Director for South Campus
to the ResLife staff and congratulates
Travis Hill, Interim Associate Director of Residential Life
&
Chad Laliberte, Area Director for North Campus
on their promotions.

Hamilton Beauty: Loving the Hair You Were Born With

by Nonny Chizea '08
Features Writer

Welcome freshman, to another wonderful year at Hamilton College and the Hamilton College Fashion, Health and Beauty column! I had been thinking, what would be a great article to kick off the year in the Features section. I thought, HAIR! Many of us do not know how to take care of our hair when we leave home. I did some research at the best Fashion site on the net, ELLE.com in order to find out what *advise* I can give freshman, upperclassmen and even members of the faculty and staff. I found tips on taking care of black, blonde, coarse and curly hair to name a few. I hope you learn from it, live it and love it!

FINE HAIR

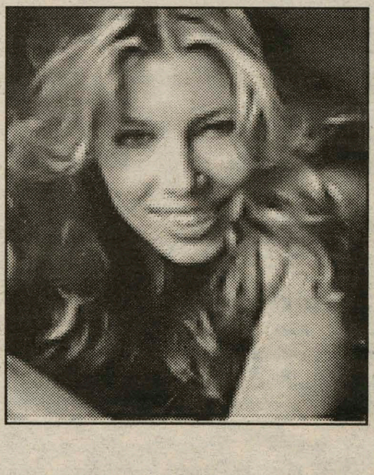
Just because your hair is as brittle at a wafer cake does not mean your only hope is wearing it down. Elle.com suggests using a volumizing shampoo (try *Kerastase's Volumactive*) or one that will nourish weak hair. According to **Garren** a famous stylist to the fashion industry one should: "apply conditioner starting midlength and go down to the ends. Skip conditioner at the roots, which will just flatten hair"

COARSE HAIR

Un-tamed frizzy hair was cute in grade school because you did not know any better. Elle.com suggests you "fight frizzy hair with a moisturizing or smoothing shampoo. Opt for a creamy rather than a transparent formula". Try L'Oreal Paris VIVE Pro Smooth Intense Shampoo, $5 at Drug stores!

CURLY HAIR

I would like to think that Goldielocks had a personal stylist, in order to maintain her curly locks. Whether she did or not, **Lorraine Massey** a curl expert and salon owner in New Your City advises ladies to STOP shampooing! "The same detergents in your dishwashing soap that cuts grease are into a majority of shampoos. Instead, use conditioner only and massage it into your scalp. The friction from your fingers will be enough to cleanse your hair," says Elle.com.



BRUNETTES

Actress **Jessica Biel** definitely puts the sexy in sexy-chocolate and according to elle.com "the richest brunettes have chocolate tones". Sunlight definitely leaches color from brunettes, so try wearing a sun hat (whenever the sun decides to shine here) or protect your hair with a UV spray. Try Phyto Plage Protective Beach Spray $22 at sephora.com

WAVY HAIR

If you walk with bouncy and easy-to-style hair on your shoulders, then you should use a volumizing shampoo. Elle.com suggests using **Frédéric Fekkai** Full Volume Shampoo, $20 at Neiman Marcus, Saks Fifth Avenue, and Frédéric Fekkai Salon and Spas.

BLACK HAIR

Nappy Roots is the name of a rap duo and it should stay that way! In order to prevent matting and split end, you should never skip your appointments. In humid weather, deep-condition hair and sprits on a shine spray. Try **Mizani** Fulfly Conditioning Treatment, $12, at mizani-usa.com. Never comb hair when it is wet, instead, elle.com suggests detangling the hair properly with a wide-tooth comb when hair is dry. Finally, try using a shampoo that infuses hair with proteins and moisture. Use a clarifying shampoo formulated for black hair. Try **Carol's Daughter** Lisa's Elixir, $18 at sephora.com.

BLONDE HAIR

Paris Hilton, blow-dryers, flat-irons and stylers with high-alcohol content dull blond hair. Avoid that and prevent ashy color by using formulas that are especially made for blondes. These formulas usually free or harsh detergents and silicon which build up in the hair, according to elle.com.

REDHEADS

Your lovely carrot top can remain in top notch condition only of you let it. Try to protect your hair from salt water and excessive sunlight as both will fade your hair color. Additionally, elle.com suggests that you use **Davines** SU Cream Sun Protective Moisturizing Cream, $19, at davines.com and use a color depositing shampoo which will bring back the vibrance to your hair. **Artec** Color Depositing Shampoo, $13, at lorealprofessionnel.com

Dorm Decor

by Fiona Kirkpatrick '10
Features Writer

World Cup Paraphernalia:
The aftermath of this summer's competition has introduced a slew of football-themed decorations to dormitory walls. Wall-hangings, posters of players, and basic numbered jerseys serve not only as colorful accents to white-walled rooms, but also as excellent conversation starters.

Tapestries:
These inexpensive cloths are a quick and easy way to occupy blank space. They also help to establish the character of a room and its inhabitants: hang a brightly colored one to create a social atmosphere, but opt for more muted tones if trying to decorate a quiet place for study.

iPod Speakers:
As iPods grow in popularity, so do the number of accessories that are sold separately. Some of the most appealing are the speakers which come in a variety of different shapes and sizes, but are primarily black or white in color. There are some which are combination speakers, alarm clocks and radios, and others that are more basic. All of the designs take up the same amount of space, but as the system becomes more complex, the price gets higher.

Star Lamps:
Cute and kitschy, hanging star lamps are affordable ornaments which liven and lighten any room. Dangle only one to establish a focal point, or suspend several for a more galactic effect.

New Faculty on the Hill

by Ashley Stagner '09
Features Writer

As Hamilton students reconvene on the Hill for another year of fun, games and education, they should be aware of the new faculty for the 2006-2007 academic year. The new faculty includes nine tenure-track appointments, twenty-one visiting professors and eight lecturers, teaching fellows and instructors.

All of this began with a national search from each of the departments for new professors. This search was eventually narrowed to several finalists who were invited to the campus. The professors were hired for initial appointment and later reviewed for reappointment. For that review, the department, faculty and Professor Urgo (Dean of Faculty) reviewed three main criteria: the professor's service to the college, teaching and scholarship. If the person is reappointed, then they are evaluated for tenure. When they are considered for tenure, the same criteria is considered as for reappointment. Also, the professor's scholarship is sent to five other scholars for evaluation.

Associate Dean of the Faculty Kirk Pillow interviewed all of the professors up for tenure. He says, "I think we have hired an amazingly talented group of people who will strengthen the college, and will serve students well in all sorts of ways".

The new professors on campus come from diverse backgrounds: Japan, Spain, South America, and several other locations. Dean Pillow says that this is part of President Stewart's goal to diversify the campus.

Professor Jean Burr:
Assistant professor of psychology. Last year she taught at Colby College and the year before at St. Olaf College. She earned her undergraduate degree at Middlebury College, and her master's and Ph.D. at the Institute of Child Development at the University of Minnesota. Her primary research looks at preschool children's social behavior, but more specifically she focuses on friendship and relational aggression. Currently she is working on a project that investigates how both friendships and aggression are related to school readiness and the transition to kindergarten. Professor Burr's favorite hobby is spending time outside: hiking, skiing, jogging and relaxing on the beach. Burr says, "I'm a fan of liberal arts colleges. I am excited to be a member of Hamilton's residential campus where I can spend time with students outside of class... I am already impressed by Hamilton students' excitement in the classroom and dedication to their studies."

Professor Wei-jen Chang:
Assistant professor of biology. He earned his bachelor's degree from National Taiwan University and his master's and Ph.D. from SUNY Buffalo. He studied invertebrate immunology when he was an undergrad, and investigated some fundamental characteristics of retroviruses for his Ph.D. thesis. He then turned to study gene evolution and genome organization in a group of unicellular organisms during his postdoctoral training. He will be teaching Bioinformatics this spring which will combine information technology and molecular biology. Chang says, "At Hamilton, I want to bring my past learning experience into the classroom to inspire students to make all possible connections on what they have learned. Working here is not only about teaching and research, but also fulfillment."

Professor Haeng-ja Chung:
Assistant professor of anthropology. She was born in Kyoto, and raised in Japan's large cities. She received her B.A. in Korean Studies and completed her M.A. thesis on Japanese and Korean comparative linguistics at the Osaka University of Foreign Studies. She then earned her Ph.D. from UCLA. From 2003-2005 she taught at Colorado College. Before coming to Hamilton, she was a Reischaer Postdoctoral Fellow at Harvard University. She is currently teaching "Sex Work and Emotional Labor" and "Comparative Ethnography of Asia." She came to Hamilton because she values both liberal arts education and research. She loves music, food and trees.

Professor Chaise LaDousa:
Assistant professor of anthropology. He attended the college of the University of Chicago and received his Ph.D. from Syracuse University. LaDousa has spent two years in North India studying languages and the role they play in education and India's rapidly changing political economy. Before coming to Hamilton he taught at Southern Connecticut State University.

Professor Rebecca Murtaugh:
Assistant professor of art. She earned her master's in fine arts from Virginia Commonwealth University. She most recently taught at college of the Redwoods in Eureka, California, where she was the co-gallery director. She has exhibited work at the Morris Graves Museum of Art in Eueka, the Artists' Museum in Washington, D.C., and galleries in Philadelphia, San Francisco and Richmond, Va. She specializes in ceramics, sculpture and installation art.

Professor Victoria Rivera-Cordero:
Assistant professor of Hispanic studies. She was born and raised in Madrid. After doing undergraduate studies and a master's in Comparative Literature at Paris III (Sorbonne Nouvelle) in Paris, she did a Ph.D. in Spanish at Princeton University. Last year she taught at Swarthmore College. Her research focuses on the nexus between writing, illness, and identity. Her scholarly interests include Medieval and Early Modern Spanish literature, as well as Film and the contemporary Spanish novel. Rivera-Cordero says, "The students seem impressive and creative, which will make teaching here a real pleasure! I decided to accept the position here due to the school's superb reputation, marvelous colleagues, as well as the exciting programs that Hamilton offers."

Professor Katherine Terrell:
Visiting professor of English. She completed her Ph.D. from Cornell University in 2004. She earned a master's in English literature from the University of Toronto, and studied English medieval literature at Oxford University. While an undergraduate she majored in English and Studio Art. Her research interests are Middle English and Middle Scots literature. She is currently teaching "Chaucer: Gender and Genre," "Intro to Literary Study" and "Intro to Old English."

Professor Christopher Vasantkumar:
Instructor in anthropology. He grew up in a small town in central Pennsylvania, went to high school near Wilkes Barre, and earned his bachelor's degree from Princeton. He lived in California for nine years before coming to Hamilton, and earned his master's from the University of California, Berkeley, where he is a candidate for a Ph.D. His research concerns interaction between Han, Tibetans and Hui muslims on the frontier of northwest China and the Amdo region of northeast Tibet. He is currently in Germany at a conference until this weekend. He has a dog named Shilo and he is a big Mets fan. Vasantkumar says, "I am excited about working here because I have heard so many fantastic things about the students and the Asian studies resources at the college."

Professor Nigel Westmaas:
Assistant professor of Africana studies. He is originally from Guyana, South America where he did his undergraduate degree in History. Following that he earned his master's and Ph.D. at SUNY Binghamton in sociology. His hobbies include cricket ("My favorite sport, alas with few crickets around here"), table-tennis, jogging and soccer. Westmaas says, "Hamilton has a very welcome academic working environment, an engaged student population with reputed standards, a very supportive departmental and administrative staff, and of course, the physical beauty of the campus."

Professor Edward S. Walker, Jr.:
A government professor, Walker is a former U.S. Ambassador and current president of the Middle East Institute, a Washington-based think tank on Middle East Policy. He has been appointed to the Christian-Johnson Distinguished Professorship in Global Political Theory. Ambassador Walker '62, served as the Linowitz Professor of Middle East Studies in 2003 and 2005.

Students must not forget about the visiting faculty members for the 2006-2007 academic year. These include: Robert Almeder, philosophy; Armando Bayolo, music; Erella Brown, religious studies; Laura Brueck, comparative literature; Hye Seung Chung, comparative literature; Selcuk Eren, economics; Ulla Grapard, women's studies; Sandra Guerrero, sociology; Christopher Hill, history; Michael Klosson, government; Andrew Lewis, history; Pei-jing Li, comparative literature; Eugene Liu, economics; Martha Mockus, women's studies; Andrew Nutting, economics; Emily Rohrbach, English; Minae Savas, East Asian languages; Kamila Shamsie, English; Rob Vanderlan, history; Joseph Wagner, government; Elizabeth Wheatley, sociology; Jacob Whittaker, history, and Peter Zani, biology.

The new lecturers are: Cristina Bozzi, critical languages and Thomas Savas, education studies. Returning lecturers are Victoria Allen, education studies; George Bahlke, English; Nesecan Balkan, economics; Russell Blackwood, religious studies; Milton Bloch, art history; Austin Briggs, English; Barbara Britt-Hysell, English as a second language; Bill Burd, theatre; Robert Del Buono, communication; Anat Glick, critical languages; Roset Khosropour, physics; Richard Lloyd, dance; Stephen Lockwood, government; Jeff McArn, religious studies; Susan Morgan, NY program/education studies; Jean Morris, psychology; Stephen Owen, economics; Jim Ring, physics; David Rivera, government; Giles Wayland-Smith, government; Kim Wieczorek, education studies and Chris Willemsen, government.

The five new teaching fellows that have joined the foreign language departments are: Sayako Akamine, Japanese; Laurence Lemaire, French; Lucy Lu, Chinese, Julia Strauss, German; and Miaochun Wei, Chinese. (The names of the visiting faculty members, lecturers, and teaching fellows were obtained from the Hamilton web-site)

Welcome to the Hill everyone!

Want to get involved with The Spectator?

E-mail spec@hamilton.edu
or
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Advertisements

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There is one vacancy on the Judicial Board.

**The J-Board is a hearing body consisting of faculty, staff and students.
The J-Board meets to review alleged violations of policy and when appropriate assigns a sanction that may result in points, suspension, or expulsion.**

If you are interested in applying for the position you must submit a short letter of interest not to exceed 1 page to mblasie@hamilton.edu by 12 noon, Friday, September 8th.

All submissions will be reviewed by the current members of the Board and a majority vote of the Board will decide the new board member.

Questions: mblasie@hamilton.edu

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Beerfest 7:40-10:00 DTS R
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STEVE CARELL LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE 12:35-2:45-4:55-7:15-9:25 R
STEP UP 12:45-2:55-5:10-7:25-9:40 PG
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QUESTIONS? CONTACT CAB@HAMILTON.EDU

Campus comedy Friday

by Rebekah A. Mintzer '09
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Tonight, Hamilton College will be fortunate enough to host a comedian whose credentials range from Comedy Central's Premium Blend, to Tough Crowd with Colin Quinn, to a guest role on MTV's cartoon classic, Daria. Tim Young is a standup comedian known for his offbeat sense of humor and inventive material. Hamilton will be one of the fifty stops on Tim's college tour, which runs until the middle of December.

Tim will be appearing tonight, September 1, at 8 p.m. in the Events Barn. His material will deal mostly with college life.

"From stealing trays, to sleeping in lofts to dirty roommates, you will recognize yourself in Tim's material," says his agent, "...find out how he graduated in a mere seven years, and learn about Tim's highly touted Tuition Reimbursement Plan."

CAB decided to hire Tim because they were quite impressed with his routine at the National Campus Activities Convention. His performance garnered a great deal of attention from college activity programming boards that attended. In fact, he has performed his at over 400 colleges in total. "Tim's routine is based very much around the college lifestyle, which is why CAB thought he would be a good comedian to start the comedy series with," says Assistant Director, Student Activities, Paul Ryan, advisor to CAB.

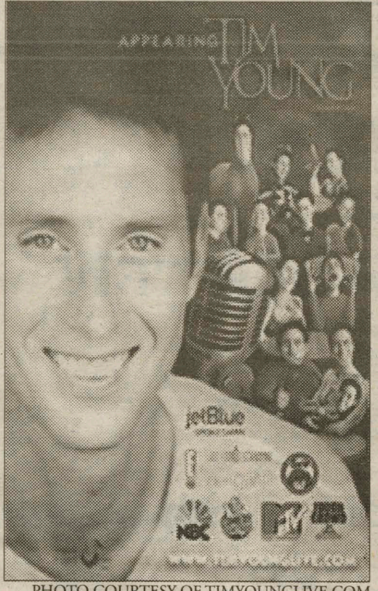

PHOTO COURTESY OF TIMYOUNGLIVE.COM
Comedian Tim Young.

Tim grew up in southeast Virginia, where according to his website, he "was raised in a strip mall by arcade attendants, but his parents were also involved." After leaving college, Tim moved to NYC and started a comedy career that has brought him to venues like the Montreal Comedy Festival and the New York Comedy Festival. Aside from his stints on MTV and the Comedy Channel, he was been featured on NBC's Friday night and recently served as a commentator on E! channel.

If you are a college student who likes to laugh, which you probably are, or if you simply want comical reassurance that you are not the only college student who has ever worried about your personal space or your budget, stop by the barn this Friday night.

Samuel L. Jackson battles 'Snakes' in the air, but not online

by Eric H. Thomas '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Summer is the season for blockbusters. Sure, there are always dozens of "good" movies that come out in late fall, just under the wire for Oscar nominations, but summer is the time when we want to get thrilled, impressed, and perhaps above all, scared.

"Snakes on a Plane," therefore, could have been just like any other summer thriller. It follows in an illustrious line, with movies that, if not "good", are at least enough to keep us talking, and score huge profits. Think "Jaws," or more recently, "Independence Day."

PHOTO COURTESY OF MOVIEWALLPAPERS.NET
The snakes didn't know Samuel L. Jackson was on the plane, otherwise they would have stayed home.

But "Snakes on a Plane" was something new. In the age of Facebook and Myspace, with words like "blogosphere" creeping into our everyday dialogue, "Snakes on a Plane" captured imaginations over the Internet. Dozens of fan sites appeared, long before the movie was even close to completion. Here on the Hill, the "Snakes on a Plane" facebook group boasts 173 members, 168 of whom joined before the movie's August 18 release. It seems that "Snakes" was exciting enough with just a title (a title that numerous bloggers believe that Samuel L. Jackson insisted on keeping, even as studio execs protested) to justify all the excitement.

As if this weren't enough, New Line, the studio financing the project, approved additional filming this spring, even after shooting wrapped last August. The reason: suggestions kept pouring in from fans corresponding actively about the film. New Line, in an apparent first, was willing to incorporate some of these ideas (such as the now infamous line, "I have had enough of these muthaf***ing snakes on this muthaf***ing plane!") Furthermore, the movie's official website features a link to a different fan site everyday, encouraging the outpouring of on-line support.

As far as movies go, "Snakes" has drawn fire for trying to be both *gru*esome thriller and over-the-top comedy, but not really being enough of either. The movie does veer back and forth between winking at the audience over its own ludicrous premise, and trying to get us to jump with each snakebite. This might account for the movie's disappointing $15.2 million opening weekend revenues (its budget was reported at $33 million). It would do better, as a film, to just accept and revel in its own unintended hilarity than to try to satisfy as a summer thriller. Still, the audience in New Hartford seemed to appreciate the moments of levity when the characters crack a smile or two at their own situations, and I was moved by Jackson's delivery of the line: "Great, snakes on crack!" But the movie did try too hard, and the apparent sincerity of the characters over their peril was more annoying than humorous.

But if it isn't a good film, at least "Snakes on a Plane," is important. Not for anything that Hollywood did, but rather, for the fact that the movie was so heavily promoted and influenced by the buying public. The Internet may finally be changing the movie making process, and that, at least to studio executives, is truly scary.

Summer of great live music

by Zoe Bruck '10
Arts & Entertainment Writer

As school lets out and the days become longer, popular entertainers hit the road for summer summer tour season. This year's summer tours had something for every type of music lover.

According to "Rolling Stone" magazine, pop music icons like Madonna and Elton John came out on top of the summer tour circuit. Musical giants like Eric Clapton and Pearl Jam were on tour as well as veterans to the summer tour scene, like Dave Matthews and Jimmy Buffet. All of the huge stars apparently did not affect the success of new groups like Black Eyed Peas, Fall Out Boy, and Rascall Flatts, who all had hugely successful tour runs.

Music festivals are the most vital component of the summer music scene and are becoming rapidly bigger and more popular every year. There were dozens of festivals occurring all over the country this summer, but the two biggest were Bonnaroo and Lollapalooza.

Bonnaroo took place over four rainy days in Manchester, Tennessee, headlined by Radiohead; a big shift from the style of past years' headliners like Dave Matthews and Widespread Panic. This year's lineup was incredibly diverse, as the festival attempted to further distance from its jam-band only roots.

The line up for Bonnaroo included favorites from every genre imaginable, from indie , with artists like Bright Eyes and Death Cab for Cutie, to reggae, with artists like Damien Marley and Matisyahu. Cyprus Hill added some hip-hop while Shooter Jennings and Steve Earle represented country music. There were also countless other bands that couldn't be lumped into a genre at all.

Lollapalooza capped off its sixteenth year with a three-day, 130 band event in Grant Park in Chicago. Lollapalooza boasted many of the same artists as Bonnaroo: Matisyahu, My Morning Jacket, Blues Traveler and Nickel Creek, to name a few.

It was headlined by the Red Hot Chili Peppers and also included diverse names in music, such as Kanye West, Wilco, Gnarls Barkley and Ryan Adams.

Like Bonnaroo, Lollapalooza has changed its original image in favor of attracting more fans and a more diverse musical lineup. When it began in 1991, it was an exclusively alternative-rock show, but now it attracts music fans of all kinds.

The summer of 2006 was one of diversity and wide appreciation of all types of music. The students of Hamilton College reflect the diversity of the summer concert series.

People around campus attended countless concerts this summer, from Kelly Clarkson to OAR to the Warped Tour. There was a lot of awesome stuff going on, so hopefully a lot of people got a chance to catch some amazing music. If not, don't worry. If present trends continue, next summer's festivals and tours will be even bigger!

LOLLAPALOOZA®

Summer music high (and low) lights

by Nicole T. Dietsche '09
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Admit it. This summer you spent getting real-life work "experience interning (you know, filing and getting coffee), working at some thankless job, or generally lazing around working on your tan It's no wonder the music on your iPod is... face it, old, faded and just a bit worn out. Like that old tee-shirt you keep for posterity. Here's what you missed out on while getting sun burnt on the beach and a great soundtrack while you try to wash that orange spray-on tan off your palms (No one notices that you kind of look like a tangerine... Promise.)

Taking Back Sunday, Louder Now. *Release Date: April 21.* This is TBS third full length release and their best by far. Lead singer Adam Lazarra not only found a hair style that works for him, but he also found the power behind his voice, so on songs like "Make-DamnSure" you can feel every ounce of emotion that he's trying to portray. The band is tighter as a whole, writing catchy, stuck-in-your-head-all-day songs with great hooks. Easily one of my favorite releases of this summer.

The video for the second single off the album, "Twenty Twenty Surgery," has Lazarra pulling his best Johnny Cash/"Walk the Line" impression as the band performs in a prison. Intense.

TBS will actually be in the area (Syracuse, at the NY State Fair) this Sunday, and it should be a great show, as long as Lazarra doesn't give his guitarist a concussion (again) while swinging his microphone around his neck and over the audience (a la Robert Plant).

***Songs to download:** MakeDamnSure, Twenty Twenty Surgery, My Blue Heaven, Liar (It Takes One To Know One).*

Gnarls Barkley, "Saint Elsewhere." *Release Date: May 2.* The significance of this record is not necessarily the number of good songs it contains but rather just a single song it contains. "Crazy" off of this album was the first song to sell one million copies... on iTunes alone. If that doesn't prove once and for all that the internet is truly taking over and changing the face of media and music in particular, than nothing else does. Best line in "Crazy" has to undoubtedly be "Who do you think you are, ha ha ha, bless your soul D'you really think you're in control?"

Red Hot Chili Peppers, Stadium Arcadium. *Release Date: May 8.* The Red Hot Chili Peppers have been around for what seems like forever (not as long as U2, of course, but doesn't Bono rule the world now? Bono for President, 2008!), and have a lot of really good material. "Stadium Arcadium" is no exception to this rule. The band actually wrote so much material for this album that they decided to go ahead and record a double disc (named Mars and Jupiter). RHCP have gone through a lot, particularly with drugs and interpersonal tensions in the band, but "Stadium Arcadium" reflects the renewed sense of unity the band had while writing and recording. Not to mention, they were also voted number four on Spin Magazine's "The 25 Greatest Live Bands Now!" (Unsurprisingly, U2 was first. Hmm... maybe Bono IS brainwashing all of us...)

***Songs to download:** Dani California, Hump de Bump, Tell Me Baby, Snow (Hey Oh)*

The Raconteurs, Broken Boy Soldiers. *Release Date: May 16.* Jack White will determinedly tell you that The Raconteurs is NOT his side project to The White Stripes.Huh, could've fooled us. Anyway, the Raconteurs are decent. They kind of sound like... well, The White Stripes. Or, more precisely, a fuller, more sophisticated White Stripes. Jack Lawrence is on bass, Brendan Benson and Jack White on guitar/vox/keys, and Patrick Keeler on drums, giving The Raconteurs a kind of rock and roll super-group make up, but without the sound expected from a lineup of such a well bred collection. They're worth a listen, but you don't need to run out to the store right away. Maybe wait for a sale.

***Song to Download:** Steady, As She Goes.*

Angels and Airwaves, We Don't Need To Whisper. *Release Date: May 23.* When Tom Delonge (of blink-182 fame) first introduced us to A&A, he prophesied that he (and band-mates former Hazen Street and Box Car Racer guitarist David Kennedy, ex-Distillers bassist Ryan Sinn and Offspring drummer Atom Willard – another compilation of super group strength) would release - something to the effect of - the greatest rock album ever known in the history of man. Someone should have told Tommy boy to not get too ambitious. Don't get me wrong, the album has got its moments, but missed its mark as a revolutionary piece of musical phenomena (I got rather bored less than halfway through the first song). And the comparison to blink is painfully obvious. Delonge's voice sounds exactly like it did when he was fronting blink and the melodies are similar to older blink-182, except lesser. There's more arm waving and swaying back and forth rather than frantic moshing (tragically, both singles sound so similar that you can almost interchange the lyrics and the song would be the same), but it makes it feel like maybe Delonge just lost a little oomph when he decided to (finally) grow up. Another album that is worth giving a try, but don't spend more than... oh, let's say $12 on it.

***Songs to Download:** The Adventure, Do It For Me Now*

Head Automatica, Popaganda *Release Date: June 5.* It is refreshing to have a band that actually embraces the fact that the music they release is pop. Being labeled "pop" is about as detrimental as being labeled "emo," yet Head Automatica are so good, you don't care that the music you're listening to is "pop," so long as your foot is still tapping and you're still trying to not mouth along the words while on the train. Head Automatica is the one kind of band that one would expect frontman Daryl Palumbo to be in, nonetheless formed. Palumbo, a Long Island Hardcore veteran, was formerly the lead singer of a (not so) little band called Glassjaw. If you ever listen to a Glassjaw song, followed by a Head Automatica song, (suggested: "Lovebites and Razorlines" followed by... well, ANYTHING by Head Automatica) you'll be convinced that Palumbo had a mid-life crisis or something to that effect. And that may be a very good thing. Head Automatica is bursting out into the mainstream with super-catchy "porn-groove" songs such as "Beating Hearts Baby" and "The Razor" (both off their first release, "Decadence") and they do it yet again with "Popaganda." Their addictive dance-punk gets you out of your seat and moving (which is sometimes frowned upon while you're riding mass transit).

***Songs to Download:** Graduation Day, She's Not It*

AFI, Decemberunderground *Release Date: June 6.* This is AFI's seventh full-length album, and proves that bands can and DO get better with time. Sure, some of Davey Havok's lyrics may be a bit emo, but you're lucky if you notice it over the rest of the melodic goth-metal. Havok may be the single-most flamboyant front man of a goth-metal band (with a penchant for eye makeup), but AFI is undeniably one of the best bands of their genre out there. Their first single off this year's release, "Miss Murder," is catchy and addictive, with one of the best bass line intros ever known to contemporary music. One of the greatest things about this band, however, is the way they take things in stride. The goth-metal quartet recorded "Decemberunderground" at the same studio that Paris Hilton was recording her album (see below for more details on THAT fiasco) and walked into the kitchen of the studio to find Paris eating Davey Havok's special vegan birthday cake. That right there is entertainment. The album is great. The only thing that confuses me: bunnies. What is going on with the bunnies? There are rabbits as the booklet art and the cute little furry bouncy cute dudes make an appearance in the video for "Miss Murder." One way to show that you're a tough, hard-core goth-metal band? Bunnies. Definitely bunnies.

***Songs to Download:** Prelude 12/21, Miss Murder, Summer Shudder, Endlessly, She Said.*

Dashboard Confessional, Dusk and Summer. *Release Date: June 27.* To those of you who do not like Dashboard, too bad, this album is great. It's still emo (Chris Carrabba should just be named King of Emo), but it's much more similar to Spiderman 2's "Vindicated:" rock-oriented acoustic songs that pluck at your heartstrings. The first single, "Don't Wait," is driven by carefully placed "oh oh"s and raises you up to a new level of, well, emo. And emo isn't bad. Get those thoughts out of your head right now. Whoever came up with the idea that if people express some sort of emotion through music is "bad" obviously never listened to any music, because all music can be classified as emo, if based purely on lyrics alone. And "Dusk and Summer" is a great collection of good rock songs, emo or not.

Dashboard fans will like it because it sounds like classic Dashboard with a little something extra (there is violin on a bunch of the tracks) and is generally put together better than Dashboard's last release, "A Mark, A Mission, A Brand, A Scar." Carrabba worked with two different producers and even a guy from Counting Crows. It's definitely worth a listen.

***Songs to Download:** Don't Wait, Stolen, So Long So Long, Rooftops and Invitations*

Rise Against, The Sufferer and The Witness. *Release Date: July 4.* Last summer, "Swing Life Away" was Rise Against's big single, but this year, the group is back and better than ever with single "Ready To Fall." Rise Against is a very politically charged band and also very eco-friendly (the band is involved with PETA and are all either vegan or vegetarian). The video for "Ready to Fall" is a collage of images denouncing animal cruelty and the destruction of the natural environment. "The Sufferer and The Witness" is a great compilation of songs, even some that are pretty experimental, like "The Approaching Curve," which is mainly spoken-word and "Roadside" which incorporates eerie female backing vocals. Rise Against toured this summer on the Warped Tour's Main Stage to packed crowds, and will only continue to grow bigger.

***Songs to Download:** Ready to Fall, Drones, The Approaching Curve, Under the Knife*

see Music, page 21

Hamilton Playlist

by Nicole T. Dietsche '09
Arts & Entertainment Editor

PHOTO COURTESY OF FACEBOOK.COM

Student: Chris Boveroux
Year: 2008
Major: Music/Philosophy

1. "Humour of the Situation" by Barenaked Ladies – "Because you always need to attempt to find something funny."

2. "Take It All Away" by Cake – "is one of the most perfect breakup/missing songs ever written."

3. "Maria's Beautiful Mess" by Ellis Paul – "is both a great example of the lyric-writing genius of ellis and his guitar-playing, which is also amazing."

4. "Miserable" by Lit – "has a few incredibly clever lines that I'm a sucker for."

5. The Shins' version of "We Will Become Silhouettes"- "is better than the Postal Service version, and remains one of my favorite covers."

6. "Extraordinary" by The Suicide Machines – "is a surprisingly good love song."

7. "The Vatican Rag" by Tom Lehrer – "is a hilarious song by the master of piano humor."

8. "Caffeine" by Toxic Audio – "describes my own personal drug of choice."

9. "Thank You For Sharing" by The Vanity Project –"Steven Page's pet project, combines the singer that made Barenaked Ladies great with some of the cleverest singing and writing I've ever heard."

10. "The Coolest Disco Medley Ever" by Vocal Tonic – "is amazing, simply because it's the only place you'll find that many disco songs arranged a cappella."

Attention iPod Junkies...

Have a playlist you're dying to share? Think other people listen to bad music? Want to know what your professors and administration listen to? Let us know your playlists or whose playlists you want to know. Email **ndietsch** *or* **rmintzer**, *and share your ideas with us.*

Weekly Charts

by Nicole T. Dietsche
Arts & Entertainment Editor

MUSIC

(From iTunes)

Top Albums

1. Modern Times – Bob Dylan
2. Til The Sun Turns Black – Ray LaMontagne
3. FutureSex/LoveSounds – Justin Timberlake
4. Danity Kane – Danity Kane
5. Game Theory – The Roots
6. Continuum – John Mayer
7. A Public Affair – Jessica Simpson
8. Eyes Open – Snow Patrol
9. How To Save A Life – The Fray
10. Idlewild – Outkast

Top Songs

1. SexyBack – Justin Timberlake feat. Timbaland
2. London Bridge – Fergie
3. Chasing Cars – Snow Patrol
4. Call Me When You're Sober – Evanescence
5. Crazy – Gnarls Barkley

MOVIES

(Yahoo! Box Office Charts)

1. Invincible
2. Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby
3. Little Miss Sunshine
4. Beerfest
5. World Trade Center
6. Accepted
7. Snakes on a Plane
8. Step Up
9. Idlewild
10. Barnyard: The Original Party Animals

BOOKS

(From The New York Times Best Seller List)

Paperback Fiction

1. THE MEMORY KEEPER'S DAUGHTER, by Kim Edwards
2. LIFEGUARD, by James Patterson and Andrew Gross
3. DANGEROUS, by Nora Roberts
4. CHILL FACTOR, by Sandra Brown
5. BORN TO BE WILD, by Catherine Coulter

Paperback Non-Fiction

1. RUNNING WITH SCISSORS, by Augusten Burroughs
2. NIGHT, by Elie Wiesel
3. AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH, by Al Gore
4. 1776, by David McCullough
5. THE GLASS CASTLE, by Jeannette Walls

Campus Life Open House preview

by Lindsay King '10 and Kate Payne '10
Arts & Entertainment Writers

Are you overwhelmed by the massive amounts of e-mails coming in from clubs, begging you to join? Can't wait until Open House when you can finally find organizations that are calling your name? Here's a brief look at some of the most awesome clubs on campus, so keep an eye out!

Hogwarts At Hamilton

Quick! What is the title of the first chapter of the first Harry book? Congratulations, Hogwarts at Hamilton will still be friends with you! Meet with your favorite Harry groupies to discuss the deep philosophical implications of a certain someone's particularly untimely death (wink-wink). Pull out all the stops on Halloween, when students recreate Hogwarts in ELS, complete with costumes and sweet British accents. Want to be a part of it (and who wouldn't?) Check out the website at http://hogwartsathamilton.org

P.S. The Boy who Lived (don't check you loser.)

Hamilton Shooting Club

Did you ever watch the movie "Braveheart" and think "Great film, but it needed more guns!" then we have the club for you. The Hamilton Shooting Club is been a great forum for learning about proper gun safety, as well as letting students "free the souls of thousands of little clay pigeons," in the words of 2006 founder J.P. Maloney '07. For all of you future campus po, don't fret, firearms are kept safely off campus. So, "if your idea of happiness is a warm gun," then you've found your calling. For more information, contact J.P. Maloney at jmaloney@hamilton.edu.

Hamilton Environmental Action Group

Want to save the environment? Want to stop the shooting club? Join the Environmental Action Group and see how big a difference you can make! Come together and practice the 3 R's (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) and force others to do the same. Members get involved both on the Hamilton Campus and in surrounding towns to confront environmental issues. For more info, contact Annika Savio at asavio@hamilton.edu.

Computer Gaming Club

Getting tired of all that sunlight? This alliance is for you! "Not unlike Fight Club," this group promises to never be a bore. Although usually seen as a solitary event, computer gaming with the help of this club can quickly become a new outlet for friendships and newfound enemies. So go become 1337 gamers and P3WN your opponents!!one11! Go to http://cg.hamilton.edu for more information.

Campus Activities Board

Were you the one in high school who worshipped the cutting edge celebrities and bands before they "sold out"? Then get them to campus! CAB is the group responsible for bringing up-and-coming artists to Hamilton, as well as entertaining them before and after the gig. So if constantly scoping out hot new artists and entertainers is your forte, please join! For more info, visit the website at http://students.hamilton.edu/cabpage, or send an email to cab@hamilton.edu.

Hamilton Mock Trial

Yale and Harvard Law just around the corner? Come join fellow overachievers in a competitive forum to get all the practice you can get in the arts of argument, oral communication, persuasion, and legal knowledge. Current chair Michael Blasie '07describes Mock Trial as being "the perfect combination between fun and hard work," with the opportunity to travel to compete against schools such as Yale and the Naval Academy. For more info, contact siseman@hamilton.edu, mblasie@hamilton.edu, or jagins@hamilton.edu.

You can get more information on these, and other groups at the Campus Life Open House, Friday, September 8, on Martin's Way and the Beineke Student Activities Village from 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm.

Summer's best video game releases

by Brendan Conway '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Summer is, by stereotype, a barren and empty wasteland for new game releases. I'm not entirely sure how this strange tradition of saving the good games for the fall and winter began, but alas, it has dominated the schedules of many a game publisher for eons, dating back to the Stone Age, when Pong was played on granite slabs (and you thought the Xbox controller was bad). This summer, for the most part, was no different, but there were occasional bits of shimmering glory hidden within the endless burning sands.

For one, there was a little ditty of a game going by the auspicious moniker of "Dead Rising." Skepticism being my default attitude, I approached the game with caution. However, something about it has caught my fancy. A game in which one finds one's self within a shopping mall, proverbially chock full of those lovable, shambling piles of rot affectionately called "zombies"…something about that concept just tickles me. Not to mention the part where everything, indeed, everything, in this mall can be transformed into a zombie slaying apparatus. After watching numerous online videos of a man pushing a lawnmower through clouds of zombies, to have them fall and be caught by the machine's whirling blades, or a man bearing a giant hand weight in his fist and using it to strike zombies with such force that they explode in a crimson rain, or a man pulling that staple of all zombie movies, a chainsaw off the shelf of a home improvement shop and carving his way through a tide of undead, (and after the impressive 8.4 awarded to it by the very distinguishing reviewers over at GameSpot.com,) I can easily say that I would purchase this game in a heartbeat. Alas, as I currently lack the hardware necessary for this gory jewel of a game, purchasing it would do me no good. I shall eagerly await that time when I finally do hold in my hands that pristine, white Xbox360 controller, commanding a zombie-killing madman on my TV screen.

Though I could not personally enjoy "Dead Rising," there were other hidden pieces of treasure to find in the summer haze from which I could savor from the privacy of my own home. Namely, I am thinking of "Civilization IV: Warlords," an expansion for the award-winning "Sid Meier's Civilization IV." While, sadly, this game lacks the vast swathes of cannibalistic undead of "Dead Rising," it more than makes up for it in other departments. Presenting an opportunity to play as Brennus of the Celtic Empire, Shaka of the Zulu Empire, Mehmed II of the Ottoman Empire, and, of course, that lovable ball of bluster, Winston Churchill, not to mention many other new leaders and civilizations, this game will more than satisfy your alternate history cravings. When you are playing as Hannibal of Carthage, and you have just finished building the Eiffel Tower while your Infantry and Cavalry are invading Russia to the south, smashing apart the primitive Russian Macemen and Crossbowmen, you will find yourself positively thrilled to have proved your history professor wrong, back when he told you that Hannibal and Stalin were not contemporaries. Not to mention that this game includes multiple scenarios, allowing you to reenact famous historical instances, such as the Peloponnesian War, the Unification of China, the reign of Alexander the Great, or the Rise of the Roman Empire. Heck, it even sets you up as Genghis Khan, leading your vast hordes on a quest of conquering and pillaging across Asia, or as the chaotic barbarians, determined to obliterate all traces of order and civilization. If you have even a passing interest in strategy games, history or losing many more hours of sleep to "just one more turn," (and if you have "Civilization IV," which is required for "Warlords") then you *would* be doing yourself a great disservice by not purchasing this game.

There were other summer morsels, such as the face off between anti-game proponent Jack Thompson and defenders of the gaming community like Adam Sessler of X-Play (God bless him, he tried), or the stunning news that E3 has been, for all intents and purposes, obliterated and replaced with a mockery of its former glory, or the Leipzig Gaming Convention in Germany, which many hail as a possible successor to E3's crown, or the development of a beautiful piece of satire in game format called "Bad Day LA," or, of course, the Penny Arcade Expo of 2006. But, unfortunately, I can only go on for so long, my verbose, journalistic wanderings having already stolen so much space. So, with that, I bid thee adieu, fair readers. May your controllers be true, your fingers, nimble, and your gaming appetite never ending.

If you like pina coladas, and getting caught in the rain... Write for Arts and Entertainment! Contact ndietsch or rmintzer for more information!

Justin Timberlake: bringing sexy back

by Nonny Chizea '08
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Birth Name: Justin Randall Timberlake

Alisas: Mr. J-T, J-Timb, and The New King of Pop (stole the crown from former self-proclaimed King of Pop, Michael Jackson)

Born: January 31, 1981

Origin: Memphis, Tennessee, United States

Genre(s): Pop, R&B

Occupation: Singer-songwriter, actor, dancer, producer

Years Active: 1995-2002 (with *NSYNC)
2002-present (solo)

Record Label: Jive Records

Girlfriend(s): Britney Spears and Cameron Diaz

It has been almost four years since the release of **Justin Timberlake**'s debut solo album *Justified.* Released in 2002, *Justified* scored the ex-Nsync member two Grammy Awards and also sold seven million copies world wide. It is now 2006 and Mr. Timberlake is set to release his sophomore effort *FutureSex/LoveSounds* on September 12.

Justin was born in Memphis, Tennessee to **Randall Timberlake** and **Lynn Bomar**. He grew up in the small town of Millington, which is north of Memphis. His paternal grand-father, was a Baptist minister, but according to wikipedia.org "Timberlake considers himself more "spiritual than religious". Both of his parents are now divorced and have since remarried.

In 1993, Justin rose to fame when he joined *The Mickey Mouse Club*. It was there he met future girlfriend **Britney Spears**, future tourmate **Christina Aguilera**, and most importantly future

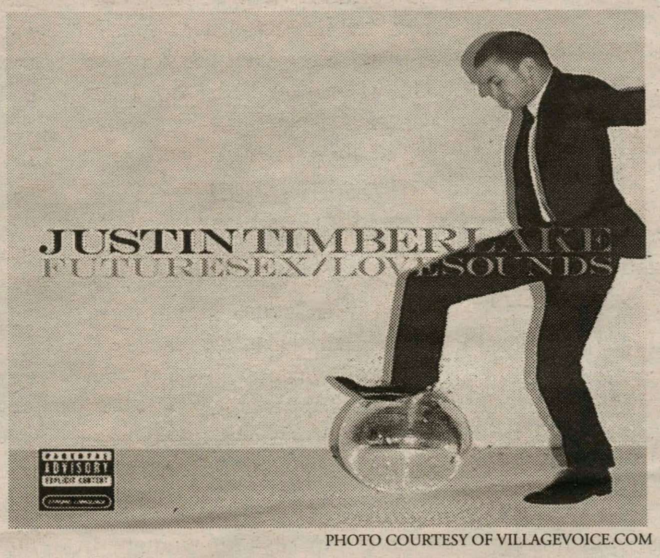

PHOTO COURTESY OF VILLAGEVOICE.COM

Timberlake's latest album.

band-mate, **JC Chasez**. At the end of the show in 1995, Timberlake recruited JC to join his male singing group along with his friend **Chris Kirkpatrick.** Along the way, JC, Justin and Chris picked up two members **Lance Bass** and **Joey Fatone**. It was Justin's mother **Lynn Bomar-Harliss** who created the name for the boys using the last letter of each member's name: Justin, Chris, Joey, Lansten (a nickname created for Lance Bass) and JC.

On August 29, 2002, Timberlake released his solo album *Justified.* Timberlake also performed at the 2002 *MTV Video Music Awards,* where he premiered his first single, "Like I Love You", a dance track produced by **The Neptunes**. The song was a hit, reaching #11 on the *Billboard* Hot 100. The follow up single, "Cry Me A River" (featuring **Timbaland)** entered the charts at #3. The following singles, "Rock Your Body" and "Senorita" charted at numbers 5 and 27 respectively.

On July 7, 2006 Timberlake's first single, from *FutureSex/LoveSounds,* "SexyBack" began receiving radio and internet play. "Sexy Back" features additional vocals by **Timbaland.** The song was released to iTunes on August 22, 2006 and peaked at number one the same day. The song also received mixed reviews due to the distortion of Justin's voice. *Billboard's* **Chuck Taylor** called the song "atrocious."

Newsday, however dubbed it song of the week and called it "a stunner, a bold, new mix of Basement Jaxx-styled dance music and Timbaland's spacey hip-hop."

As for the music video, Justin said he was inspired by **Madonna's** "Take a Bow" music video. **Michael Hausemann**, the director for "Take a Bow directed the short-film styled video. The video has received some criticism for its sexual content and many scenes with implied sexual acts.

from Music, page 19

Cartel, Chroma. *Release Date: July 25.* You will like Cartel. How do I know this? My brother (who doesn't like music at all) likes Cartel. This album is actually a re-release, done by a major label who picked them up after realizing the amazing potential this band has. They also toured on Warped Tour, and drew huge crowds, particularly for not even being on a main stage. Originally from Atlanta, Cartel has catchy hooks, sing-a-long lyrics and great songs. They may sound like a lot of the other alternative bands that are releasing music right now, but at the same time, they don't. They remind you of all the good parts of the bands you sort-of-kind-of like. They're single, "Honestly" is hugely popular, particularly with all the music television channels who have it in heavy rotation. This is one band that you will want to ride with to the height of their fame.

Songs to Download: Honestly, Burn This City, Runaway, Say Anything (Else)

The Pink Spiders, Teenage Graffiti. *Release Date: August 1.* Yet another band that toured on Warped Tour this year, The Pink Spiders are straight out of Nashville, Tennessee and ready to take the world by storm, and no one can tell them any differently. This trio has already released one album, "Hot Pink" (yes, they DO actually all wear pink) and with "Teenage Graffiti," The Pink Spiders are out there making waves in the music industry pool with their straight up rock music. They may seem a little egotistical (Bob Ferrari is self-proclaimed "World's Greatest Drummer") and that is because, well, they are egotistical. But once you start listening to them, you can't even hold it against them. Catchy, witty (Sample Lyric from "Modern Swinger": "My baby's pretty as a car crash/ Sexy as a stinger of a hornet in your arm/ just another modern swinger), and downright awesome songs make "Teenage Graffiti" one of the better rock albums of the year.

Songs to Download: Little Razorblade, Modern Swinger, Adalae, Hey Jane"

Hellogoodbye, Zombies! Aliens! Vampires! Dinosaurs!" *Release Date: August 8.* If you don't absolutey LOVE Hellogoodbye, I will do two things: 1. Disown you (if I know you, that is) and 2. Cry a little. HGB is the most fun you will ever have while listening to music. I would classify them as middle-school electronica. The band consists of lanky 18-20 year old guys who enjoy dressing in neon green hats, and allowing their friends dance around on stage dressed as pizza and bananas, who write simplistic yet ridiculously catchy songs that you find yourself dancing along to (you completely skip foot tapping and go right into dancing). Yes, they were on "The Real World," but that's okay, I forgive them, and it only helped catapult them into the mainstream (they toured with Warped Tour too). With songs like "Shimmy Shimmy Quarter Turn," "Bonnie Taylor Shakedown" (Their own take on "My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean") and a hysterical cover of Enrique Iglesias' "Escape," HGB will make you dance, sing along and giggle like a school-girl. It's difficult to not get addicted to them.

Frontman Forrest Kline is charismatic and quirky, and how can you resist an album titled after all the key characters in horror movies? How can you even begin to try to resist? Don't fight it, let the awesomeness enfold you.

Songs to Download: Oh, It Is Love, Figures A and B (Means You and Me), I Saw It On Your Keyboard, Touchdown Turnaround

Paris Hilton, Paris. *Release Date: August 14.* Yep, Hilton heiress Paris Hilton apparently decided that she doesn't have enough money as it is and not only needs her own television show, but now her own singing career. (Un)fortunately, I could not bring myself to actually LISTEN to her album, but I did manage to sit through most of her one single (it has a name, but I don't know it) and all in all, I have to say that she has a really, REALLY good producers. Credit to Greg Wells, Kara DioGuardi, Jane Wieldlin and Scott Storch for making her sound like she can actually sing; they're the ones with the real talent.

Songs to Download: I'm not even going to dignify that with an answer.

A cappella groups take Wellin Hall

by Annie Gilliland '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

This past Sunday, as everyone was moving back in and getting ready for classes the next morning, Hamilton hosted its annual welcome-back a cappella concert in Wellin Hall. Each year, this event provides a taste of music at Hamilton to new students. Of course, Wellin was filled with returning upperclassmen as well. The crowd was enthusiastic and loud, with everyone cheering for their favorite group. All four a cappella groups performed, each promoting previous and current albums. Special K started off the night, full of positive energy, and singing some old favorites.

The Hamiltones were up next. As usual, Hamilton's only co-ed a cappella group blended beautifully, supporting and backing their soloists with ease. Even though some of last year's senior members graduated, the performance was as smooth as usual.

Tumbling After was the third group of night. They welcomed back some familiar faces, alumni who graduated last year. As lively and coordinated as always, the group performed songs from some of their old albums. The women have almost finished recording a new one, due out hopefully sometime in the near future. With plenty of fans in the audience, Tumbling After put on a great show.

As per tradition, the Buffers, considered by most to be the best and funniest group, concluded the evening. Like Tumbling After, a few of their graduates were back to perform as well. They started off with "Al-Ham," like always, then sang familiar favorite songs such as "Scarborough Fair" and "Amber." The Buffers were also pushing their latest album, "Buck Rogers in the 21st Century." Their opening scene involving dry week and some of the campus staff was as popular as always, and much of the audience seemed to identify completely. The men had the biggest fan base of all the groups, with screaming and cheering and even a sign or two.

The evening was a good way to kick off a new year. All of the groups were out in the lobby afterwards promoting and selling their albums. They recently auditioned new members, and will begin working on new repertoire as well. We can all look forward to a good year from a cappella.

Science Center teeming with Summer Research

by Matthew Gordon Crowson '09
Science & Technology Editor

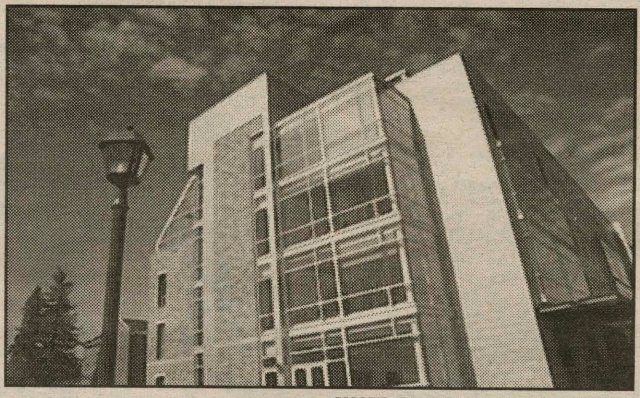
PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON.EDU

For many students, the ideal summer consists of either lying on the white-sand beaches of Cancun, or perhaps sitting on the trusty old dock with fishing pole in one hand, and a cold beverage in the other. For ninety-three Hamilton science students, however, they chose to devote this past summer to pursue numerous research projects in all the science disciplines housed under the Science Center roof.

Typically, the students live on campus for ten weeks of the summer, and conduct their research Monday through Friday. A faculty advisor, who provides guidance and advice throughout the process, oversees each research project.

In addition to the current Hamilton students on campus this summer, there were also ten students from the class of 2010 that were handpicked, out of a pool of seventy-five accepted students, to conduct research. Two programs, the STEP (Science Talent Expansion Program), and The Henry and Camille Dreyfus Foundation provided funds to the science department to bring in the pre-frosh students.

Here are some highlights from this summer's research program:

Sarah Bertino '09, William Caffry '09, Max Falkoff '08, and Jenney Stringer '08
Headed by the Leonard C. Ferguson Professor of Biology Ernest Williams, and Associate Professor of Biology William Pfitsch, the group went to the nearby Rome Sand Plains to conduct research on both the Frosted Elfin Butterfly, and its host plant Lupine. This particular project has been in progress for the past few summers, and one of the main goals is to expand the habitat of the threatened Frosted Elfin.

Amanda Salisburg '08 and Katherine Alser '09
Taking on a 10-year old project, Salisburg and Alser investigated a breast cancer-inhibiting protein called Alphafetoprotein. This protein is manifested by the fetal yolk sac, and previous studies have shown that it inhibits estrogen-dependant breast cancer. The Winslow Professor of Chemistry George Shields, and Visiting Assistant Professor of Chemistry Karl Kirschner supervised the project.

Michael Gregg '08, Yubo Lu '07 and Julia MacDougall '09
Quantum gravity is a relatively new theory in physics, and is by no means well understood. Gregg, Lu and MacDougall spent their summer digging through literature in an attempt to shine light on this little-known area of physics. Associate Professor of Physics Seth Major advised the project.

Prestigious award granted to Chemistry and Physics

by Maxwell Akuamoah-Boateng '09
Science & Technology Writer

The Hamilton College Chemistry and Physics departments have received a prestigious departmental development award from Research Corporation that will enable the addition of two faculty members, a full-time technician and a half-time machinist. The half-million dollar grant will go to support growth of the department's outstanding student research programs in chemistry and physics.

Research Corporation is a private sponsor of chemistry and physics research endeavors, and has provided individual grants in the past for Hamilton College professors Shields, Brewer, Major, Elgren, Silversmith and Kinnel. In terms of department-wide grants, Research Corporation has only made five Departmental Development Awards, and applications for these awards are by invitation only. Typically, these invitations are extended to college science departments that demonstrate the potential and ambition to move to a higher level. For Hamilton chemistry and physics, a higher level means making the move from primarily private funding research to more competitive federal funding. This initiative also means getting more student involvement in various research areas, which Hamilton College science departments continue to do with the recent completion of the Science Center.

According to Associate Professor of Chemistry Tim Elgren, former president of the Council on Undergraduate Research, an extensive review process was conducted, which involved program officers from Research Corporation as well as external consultants. There were several reports and proposals written by the physics and chemistry departments addressing individual and departmental research plans. The Research Corporation officers and external consultants will visit the College annually to assess progress towards the goals outlined in the proposal.

Research Corporation will initially provide the salary for four new positions, but eventually these positions will become permanent, leaving Hamilton College responsible for their salaries. According to Elgren, plans to hire new staff are already in motion as the chemistry department will employ a full time faculty member with a background in biochemistry, and the physics department will employ a physicist with a background in astrophysics. A full time instrument technician will also be hired, and responsible for aiding students in using research instruments such as the Raman Microscope, Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR), IR spectrometer and many more instruments used in teaching and research. Rounding out the group of four, a half-time machinist will be hired to provide support for the new machine shop constructed in the Science building.

Despite landing the Research Corporation grant, Hamilton's science departments are still actively targeting federal funding that include organizations such as the National Institute of Health (NIH), the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Department of Energy (DOE). If and when federal funding is granted, these new funds will enable Hamilton's students to further excel in different areas of scientific research.

Mark your Calender

Chemistry

Seminar Series
Held Fridays at 3:00 p.m.
Science Center Room 1066
Refreshments served at 2:45 p.m.

Sept. 1st - SENIOR THESIS: Anique-Marie Carbados, Hilary Gamble, Dan Griffith, Katherine Hansen, Silas McKee, Kevin McCarthy, Becca Parkhurst, Keigo Shimura.

Sept. 8th - SENIOR THESIS II: Cecilia Disney, Sarah Felder, Sarah Fuzesi, Becca Levinn, Danielle Massee, James McConnell, LeeAnn Pasquini, Lenny Sarceno.

Sept. 22nd - James Worman, Dept. of Chemistry, Rochester Institute Of Technology College of Science "Natural vs. Anthropogenic Sources of Organohalogen Compounds".

Biology

Sept. 11th, 4:10 p.m. Sci. Aud. - "The role of doctors in the future of normal" Dr. Alice Dorumat Dreger, Northwestern University.

Sept. 18th, 3:00 p.m. SC3040 - "Apoptotic cells inhibit HIV transcription in monocytic cells by an ELMO-dependent mechanism." Dr. Betsy Gekonge '01 Ph.D. Penn State University.

Sept. 25th Monday 3.00 p.m. SC3040 - "The Cellular and Molecular Organization of the Mosquito Midgut." Dr. Paul Linser Whitney Laboratory, University of Florida.

Volleyball team looks ahead

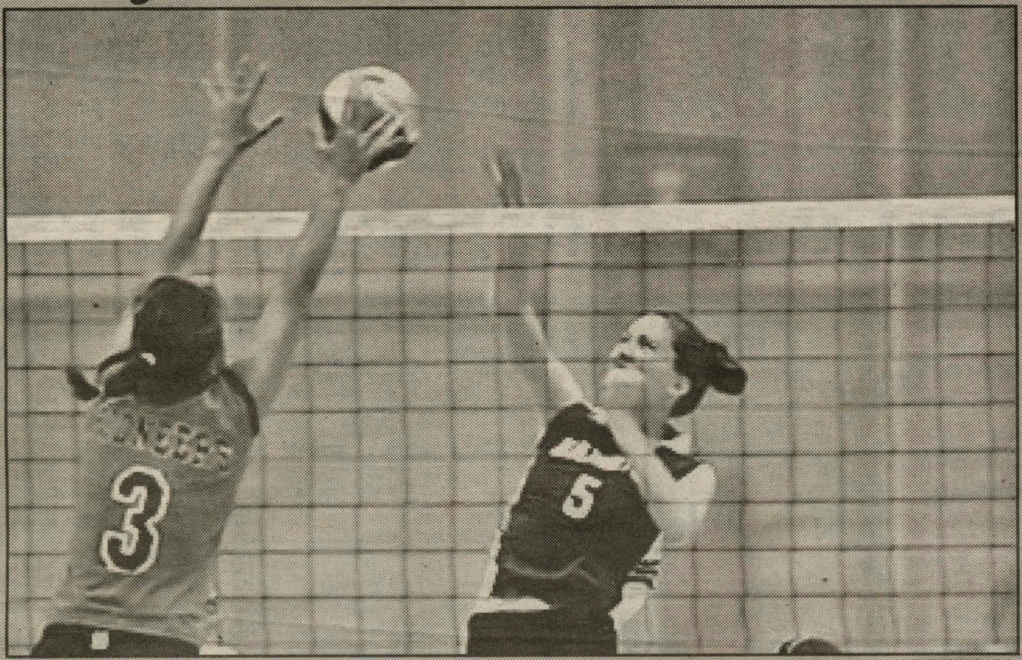

PHOTO BY JOHN HUBBARD

by Erin Hoener '10
Sports Writer

As the weather starts to turn cold at night and the foliage begins to change, we prepare for one thing: volleyball. Coming off a spectacular 2005 season, with the highest number of matches won since 2001, the Hamilton College Women's Varsity Volleyball Team is ready for an even better season this time around.

Although they have not yet played any games, tri-captains Laura Belden '07, Allie Massaro '07 and Kristina Carroll '07, are all very impressed by what they have seen in practices and inter-squad scrimmages. "Our team looks great and we are looking forward to an awesome year," says Belden.

Kristina Carroll also has high hopes for her squad. She says, "this season we have some of the most positive attitudes that this team has seen. Volleyball tends to be an emotional game so this already gives us an advantage." The team of nine returning players and three new freshmen will be kicking their season off with a tournament at Elmira College next weekend.

Leading her team not only as a senior captain, but also a leading player on the court will be Allie Massaro. Massaro leads all returning players with 34 service aces, 285 digs and 202 kills last season and is tied for seventh on Hamilton's all-time list with 806 career digs. Also returning from great seasons are Chelsea Halvorson '08, with 82 kills, and Kristen Selden '09, with 91 kills and 43 blocked hitting attempts.

In order for these hitters to be so successful there must be a skilled setter giving them the ball. This season, those setters will be Julia Penrose '09, who is coming off of a great 2005 season with 238 assists in 2005, and first-year Michelle Fisher, for whom her team has high hopes. Feeding the setters the ball will be defensive specialists Amber O'Connor '09 and freshman Gwen Simmons, described by Carroll as the "backbone of the team."

Whether it be to cheer on your friends and fellow classmates, or just as an excuse to see them in those spandex shorts, make sure you head out to Alumni gym on Saturday, September 23 to cheer on the Hamilton College volleyballers in their first home matches against Union College at 11 a.m.

X-Country on pace

by Max Currier '10
Sports Writer

On September 9, the men's cross country team will board a bus to Saratoga Springs to meet rival Union to mark the beginning of a the upcoming season. On the ride there, conversations will inevitably veer in many directions, but as the bus speeds through the highway the conversations will cease and a silence, accompanied by the incessant lull of the engine in the background, will fall, allowing the runners to concentrate before putting themselves through one of the most intense, physically enduring, and mentally trying extracurricular activities.

Hamilton's tradition of excellence in cross country goes back more than three decades. Relatively recently, spanning from 1998 to 2000, the team finished in the top five at the state meet and, also in each of those three years, finished in the top ten at the NCAA Atlantic Regional Championship. The 1999 team also placed second at the Liberty League Championships. The men seek nothing less than to return to that glory.

However, none of the current runners remembers those years from first hand experience. Coach Brett Hull, though, in his sixteenth year at Hamilton, presumably remembers them quite well. In addition to holding his runners to the highest possible athletic performance, Hull also demands academic success. Last year he coached Luke Thornblade '07 and Rob Taylor '07 who both earned NESCAC All-Academic honors.

two home meets. On September 30, Hamilton will host the Liberty League Championship for the second year in a row (third overall in the history of the 12 year tradition). It was originally scheduled in Saratoga and was to be hosted by Rensselaer but as that site became unavailable the event was brought back to Hamilton. The men begin at noon while the women begin at 1 p.m. with the course winding throughout various parts of campus.

Hamilton will also host the annual Hamilton College Invitational on October 7. Last year the team finished third out of eleven and was led by Allan Guiney '08, who finished the 8 kilometers in just four-tenths of a second over 27 minutes.

Looking back at the past in order to look forward, the team is coming off a rough slide from last year. While they finished third of seven in the Liberty League Championships, they placed 20th of 27 at the SUNY Albany Invitational, last of 11 at the NESCAC Championships, 10th of 16 at the NYSCTC Championships and 18th of 32 at the NCAA Atlantic Regional Championships. While there is room for improvement, we must remember the team has stiff competition. The NESCAC is held in high esteem, holding a reputation as one of the top cross country conferences in the nation and for holding athletes to high academic standards.

In all, it should be a very exciting season for the men's cross country Continentals. They are a team of talent and, with a vengeance to bring back Hamilton's outstanding cross country reputation, a team made,

Beat the Experts

Beat the "Experts" is by no means associated with organized gambling on professional or college athletics. Each week, we will pick several games in which to choose winners, and we will have a special guest pick winners as well.

	Nick Rockwell *Spectator* Sports Editor **69-54**	Eileen Starrett *Spectator* Sports Editor **67-44**	Ian Mandel *Spectator* Senior Editor **70-53**	Emma Furman *Spectator* Editor-in-Chief **55-68**	Andrew Dassori *Spectator* Sports Editor, Spring 2005
NHL Playoffs					
#9 Cal @ #23 Tennessee, 9/2	Tennessee	Cal	Cal	Cal	Cal
#11 Florida St. @ #12 Miami, 9/4	Miami	Florida St.	Miami	Miami	Florida St.
Virginia @ Pittsburgh, 9/2	Pittsburgh	Virginia	Virginia	Virginia	Virginia
Memphis @ Mississippi, 9/3	Mississippi	Memphis	Mississippi	Mississippi	Mississippi
Wisconsin @ Bowling Green, 9/2	Wisconsin	Wisconsin	Bowling Green	Wisconsin	Wisconsin
MLB					
Minnesota @ NY Yankees, 9/2	Minnesota	Minnesota	Yankees	Yankees	Minnesota
Toronto @ Boston, 9/2	Boston	Toronto	Toronto	Toronto	Boston
Cincinnati @ San Diego, 9/2	San Diego	San Diego	San Diego	Cincinatti	San Diego
Atlanta @ Philadelphia, 9/2	Philadelphia	Atlanta	Atlanta	Philadelphia	Atlanta

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Spectator Sports

September 1, 2006

Men's soccer will count on returning starters

by Lindsay Getman '10
SPORTS WRITER

Coming off a very successful 2005 season, the Hamilton Men's Soccer Team is ready and able to continue their domination of the Liberty League. The past season's record of 9-5-1, as well as a trip to the Liberty League Semifinals, promises to be a springboard for the upcoming season.

The talented group possesses what Head Coach Perry Nizzi calls a multiple-play style. Unwilling to be tied down by the labels of a "quick play" or "high pressure" team, the group is able to transition between man and zone defense or slow down the play if needed. Daily practices help to cement this versatile approach to the game.

Nizzi believes the team's maturity will be its greatest asset this season: "With nine returning seniors, seven of which are starting, it's the most seniors starting since I've been here." He is confident that they will be able to build on the success of past years, as well as teach new players the skills they need for key supporting roles. In addition to the strong starting line-up, the team also brings in thirteen new freshman players. They will play an important part in accomplishing the team's goal to increase its depth off the bench.

The number one goal of the team every year is to make the conference tournament. The Liberty League includes Hamilton, Clarkson, Hobart, Rensselaer, St. Lawrence, Skidmore, Union and Vassar. Only the top four teams make the tournament, and making it is the only way to continue on to the NCAA tournament. Hamilton boasts a four-year stretch of making the tournament, as well as five straight years of double figure wins preceding the 2005 season. With the experience and game-savvy of this year's team, as well as the coaching prowess of nine-year Hamilton veteran Nizzi, fourth-year Assistant Coach Frank Barbuto, and eighth-year Assistant Coach and former National Championship team-member Mike Fornino, the Hamilton Men's Soccer team can look confidently to the upcoming season.

A secondary goal of the team is to finish the season with double-figure wins. Though they fell just one game shy last year, they are in good shape to attain their goal this year. Both Nizzi and his players speak of a "win together, lose together" style of team playing. "The guys look out for each other," says Nizzi, "the team is a unit. If we lose, everyone on the bench ran just as hard in practice; if we win, the whole team is praised."

An undefeated home record is no easy feat, but the team accomplished this last year, along with the help of its fans. Nizzi adds that a boisterous, supportive crowd is all a part of the win, and as the numbers show, "the students' incredible support has made a big difference in the win/loss record at home." Since its opening four years ago, Love Field has seen twenty-two wins and only three losses and one tie. Clearly the Hamilton community has played a large role in the success of the team.

Whether you are a World Cup aficionado or a brand-new soccer fan, make plans to lend your support by coming out for the first home game on Wednesday, September 6 at 4:00 p.m. against SUNY IT. The team will try to repeat last year's season-opening shut-out. Also, with the exception of the contest against Utica College, Continental Soccer spends nearly a month on home turf starting on September 28. Be sure to lend your voice to these exciting games!

PHOTO BY JOHN HUBBARD

Key in 2005, John Porges '07 will be an integral part of this year's squad.

Field Hockey team has new coach; fresh outlook

by Julie DiRoma '10
SPORTS WRITER

Hamilton College's field hockey team sounds like it has the makings for a winning season. The new head coach appears to be well qualified and should be able to lead the girls to many victories in the upcoming season. Four new first-years are expected to take an active role in contributing to team victories. All of these additions are good signs for Hamilton's field hockey program.

Gillian McDonald, previously the assistant field hockey coach at the University of Rochester and the assistant women's ice hockey coach at the Rochester Institute of Technology, attended Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine. While in college, she played field hockey and ice hockey, and lettered in both sports. McDonald's skills were recognized when she received Bowdoin's outstanding first-year female athlete award in her freshman year. In 2003, McDonald was a field hockey first team All-America selection. During the one season she was with the University of Rochester, she led the field hockey team to 10 victories.

Assistant coach Caitlin Powderly is also beginning her first season as a part of Hamilton's field hockey program. Before coming to Hamilton, she was at the University of New England in Biddeford, Maine, where she had been an assistant women's lacrosse coach since 2003. Powderly also attended the University of New England and played lacrosse. She made the 2002 All-Commonwealth Coast Conference Second Team and, as a senior, was a team captain.

Hamilton's team lost only two starting seniors to graduation last year, but they were key players. However, the girls are not worried about the effect that this loss could have on their performance; four new players will be joining the team this fall. It is expected that these four first-years will make wonderful contributions to the team through their hard work and skill. Captains Katie Bliss '07 and Kerry Leonard '07 will be leading the team this season. Both have lettered in varsity sports and will be able to share their previous experiences with their teammates. The team will be able to further their abilities as field hockey players and learn new techniques to help them succeed.

Hamilton has excelled in field hockey in the past. Over the last four years, the All-Liberty League team has been made up of at least one Hamilton athlete. In 1991, Hamilton placed third in the New York State Women's Collegiate Athletic Association tournament. The field hockey players also shine in academics. Last year, Hamilton had ten girls on the National Field Hockey Coaches Association Division III Academic Squad.

Last season, the field hockey team had an overall record of 5-9. The girls are hoping to improve on this record. The changes involving the new coach and new players are expected to help the team get off to a good start this season. This year, the team will be made up of six seniors, six juniors, five sophomores and four first-years. A good group of players from previous seasons will be returning this year for another season.

Captain Kerry Leonard shows faith in the new coach and incoming players. "We have a new coach, a solid group of returning players, and four first-year players who are going to have an immediate impact on our team," Leonard said, when asked about the start of the new season.

The girls sound like they are off to a great start. The team's first game will be against Utica College on September 6 at 7 p.m. The girls will be facing Hartwick College during their first home game here at Hamilton College at 7 p.m. on September 19. The team will play seven games at home. Everyone should come to support the girls as they begin their new season with high hopes for success! Good luck to all of the players and Coach McDonald!

This week in Hamilton Athletics:

Men's Golf v. SUNY Oswego
Tuesday, 9/5

Men's Soccer v. SUNY IT
Wednesday, 9/6

Field Hockey @ Utica
Wednesday, 9/6

Women's Soccer v. SUNY IT
Thursday, 9/7

Go BLUE!